

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD  
(SOMB)  
8-28-14

The Sunset Review of the Sex Offender Management Board takes place during the 2015 Colorado Legislative Session. Normally the review, which determines whether the Board will continue to be enacted by the legislature, takes place every ten years, but advocates for those who have sexually offended asked for a review in five years.

The agency that reviews the Board's progress is the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). The DORA Report five years ago pointed out many problems with the Sex Offender Management Board's (SOMB) approach – i.e. the No Known Cure, the overuse, misuse and abuse of the polygraph, the lack of space in the Colorado Department of Corrections for treatment required by the legislature under the Lifetime Act of 1998, the containment model and more. We did not want to give the SOMB ten years to ponder whether to do anything about challenges the DORA Report identified.

With completion of Joint Budget Committee mandated reviews of both the Colorado Department of Corrections Sex Offender Treatment and Monitoring Program (SOTMP), and the SOMB which monitors the community treatment programs and the reports' dire findings, we look forward to conversations with DORA investigator, Mr. Bruce Harrelson. The Sunset Review brings many issues related to sexual offending, including registration, treatment, supervision, the containment model etc. to the legislature's attention in a way that is not possible during other legislative years!

We encourage all of you to write to Mr. Bruce Harrelson of DORA who will be preparing the report to the legislature regarding the progress (or regress) of the SOMB. He begins his work on the report around the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, 2014 for the 2015 legislative session here in Colorado. Write concerning your complaints, grievances, or anything in the SOMB/SOTMP system with which you are pleased. While the SOTMP is part of CDOC (Colorado Department of Corrections), it does occupy a page in the SOMB Standards and Guidelines, and is generally expected to abide by them.