


<p>California Department of Justice CALIFORNIA JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION Joe Dominic, Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i> Senate Bill (SB) 118: Amendments Affecting Sex Offender Tiering and Petitioning – Effective July 1, 2021</p>	<p><i>No.</i> 20-11-CJIS</p> <p><i>Date:</i> 01-08-2021</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i> California Sex Offender Registry (916) 210-3113 SB384@doj.ca.gov</p>

TO: ALL CALIFORNIA COURTS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICES, AND REGISTERING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Effective **July 1, 2021**, pursuant to SB 118 (Stats. 2020, ch. 29) Penal Code (PC) section 290.5 is amended to specify the process by which certain sex offender registrants may petition for termination of their sex offender registration requirements on or after July 1, 2021.

First, SB 118 amended PC section 290.5(a)(1), effective **July 1, 2021**, to require that registrants who are registering following a conviction in superior court of a registrable sex offense, and who wish to seek termination, may not file their petitions until on or after their first birthday following the expiration of their mandated minimum registration period. Individuals registering solely for an adjudication in juvenile court of a registrable sex offense were already subject to this provision following the passage of SB 384 (Stats. 2017, ch. 541).

Second, SB 118 amended PC section 290.5(a)(2), effective **July 1, 2021**, to specify that the registering law enforcement agency (LEA) shall report the receipt of service of a filed petition to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) in a manner prescribed by the DOJ.

Third, SB 118 amended PC section 290.5(a)(2), effective **July 1, 2021**, to authorize the court to summarily deny a petition for termination if the court determines the petitioner does not meet the statutory requirements for termination of sex offender registration or if the petitioner has not fulfilled the filing and service requirements of PC section 290.5. Effective **July 1, 2021**, SB 118 also amended PC section 290.5(a)(5), to require that the court notify the DOJ, California Sex Offender Registry (CSOR), when a petition for termination from the registry is granted, denied, or summarily denied, in a manner prescribed by the DOJ.

The DOJ has been working diligently with the courts and registering LEAs to establish and communicate the reporting mechanisms for the receipt of service of a filed petition and for the petition outcomes pursuant to the amendments of SB 118.

Implementing and maintaining the new tier-based sex offender registry requires a significant effort that impacts not only the DOJ, but registering LEAs, courts, and district attorney's offices. There are currently over 150,000 individuals in California's sex offender registry, and the DOJ estimates that tens of thousands of registrants may be eligible to petition for termination of sex offender registration statewide when petitioning commences on July 1, 2021.

All LEAs are strongly encouraged to subscribe to the California Law Enforcement Website at <http://clew.doj.ca.gov> for updated information regarding tiered registration.

Sex offender registrants with questions about SB 384 or SB 118 should review the [registrant FAQs](#), available on the Attorney General's website at www.oag.ca.gov under the [Sex Offender Registry program](#).

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For questions about this bulletin, contact the CSOR at (916) 210-3113 or SB384@doj.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

JOE DOMINIC, Chief
California Justice Information Services Division

For XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General