



FLORIDA POLYGRAPH ASSOCIATION POSITION STATEMENT ON THE FREQUENCY OF SEX OFFENDER TESTING

In November 2003, the Florida Polygraph Association had its bi-annual membership meeting. In an informal side meeting with examiners, within the state that specializes in Post Conviction Sex Offender Testing (PSCOT), it was discovered that there is no set time interval for administering of examinations to the offenders. The Florida Polygraph Association (FPA) understands that the Orders of Probation for offenders vary throughout the courts in the state of Florida. We feel, that in the best interest of protecting the public, a standard should be adopted (if not through the state then through the triad (Probation officer, Therapist, and Polygraph Examiner) whereby the offender is administered a polygraph on a regular basis. Additionally, we understand that if the Orders of Probation state an “Annual Polygraph Examination” we are limited to following those orders and the offender will be the first one to notice it. However, if the orders state, “*At Least Once Annually*”, we in the Florida Polygraph Association feel that the least amount of time between examination needs to cover, the safer the public is, the easier it is for the offender to review his behavior, and the better the accuracy. Therefore, it is the *position* of the FPA that when possible, the offender will be tested in four to six month intervals. The initial polygraph examination referred to as the Monitor/Maintenance, commencing four to six months after the offender is placed on probation. The Monitor/Maintenance will be ongoing and continuing every four to six months. It is important to remember, that when the offender passes the examination, the next Monitor/Maintenance exam will only cover his behavior from his last examination. However, if the offender does not pass the Monitor/Maintenance, the next examination will cover the entire time period to date. The FPA believes that the longer time between examinations, the longer the offender might be endangering society. We welcome comments and input to this Florida Polygraph Association Position Statement. Please e-mail www.floridapolygraph.org.