



## FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Families, residents can utilize new Web feature as safety precaution

*'Area Sex Offender Inquiry' allows residents to locate where sexual predators live*

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Jan. 12, 2010) - Franklin County Auditor Clarence Mingo today announced an enhanced Web site feature (<http://www.franklincountyauditor.com>) that allows parents and other Franklin County residents to identify and locate registered sex offenders and predators who live near by.

After doing a property search on the site's Real Estate Page, a user can click on the "Area Sex Offender Inquiry" and view pertinent information on all registered sex offenders within a two-mile radius of their residence. A small orange flag shows up on a detailed map letting the user know the name of the sexual offender and where he or she lives.

The additional information found when clicking on a flag includes a photo of the sexual offender, his or her address, a detailed physical description and a listing of all his or her offenses.

Mingo said the Web site's popularity – people visit it about 1 million times per month – made the enhancement designed with the safety of Franklin County residents in mind a natural fit for his office.

"In surveying the technological abilities of our office, I realized that the auditor's office already possessed a vehicle for providing this key information to the public," he added. "It was then just a question of implementation."

The Area Sex Offender Inquiry combines information from the Ohio Attorney General's Web site and Franklin County Sheriff's Web site.

"We approached the attorney general's office and the sheriff's office and their staffs couldn't have been more helpful," Mingo said. "We were able to work quickly and efficiently to present this vital service to our county constituents".

"The feature's existence is a good example of great cooperation between government entities."

For more information, please visit [www.franklincountyauditor.com](http://www.franklincountyauditor.com) or call 614-462-7399.