



“MOST WANTED” SEX OFFENDER ARRESTED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2009

Lansing. Officers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) Sixth District Fugitive Team, the United States Marshal Service and Wyoming Police Department arrested Jessiebell Bell, age 51, on Sept. 18, 2009, on an outstanding felony warrant for Failure to Register with the Michigan Sex Offender Registry. Bell was featured as an absconder on the state’s Most Wanted Sex Offenders Web site at www.michigan.gov/absconders.

The US Marshals received information that Bell was at a residence in Wyoming. Despite attempts to hide in the residence, Bell was taken into custody, and is currently lodged in the Kent County Jail.

Bell was convicted of Criminal Sexual Conduct 1st Degree (Personal Injury) in 1989. He was selected as one of Michigan’s most wanted sex offenders after he failed to change his address and verify his residence during a required verification period.

Michigan’s Sex Offenders Registration Act requires offenders convicted of felony-listed offenses to verify their address at a local law enforcement agency quarterly during the first 15 days of January, April, July and October. Failure to do so results in a graduated penalty ranging from a 93-day misdemeanor to a four-year felony.

The MSP Web site began featuring the names and photographs of 10 of the state’s most wanted sex offenders in August 2006. As wanted individuals are located, new offenders are featured. Bell is the ninth “Most Wanted” offender to be located this year.

The public can provide information about any offender by contacting the MSP toll free at 1-866-761-7678, or by contacting the nearest law enforcement agency.

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