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Appriss and Watch Systems Partner on Sex Offender Notification Solutions

Partnership to enhance law enforcement's efforts to track registered sex offenders

Louisville, Ky. – State and local law enforcement agencies will now be able to utilize the combined services of Appriss® Inc. and Watch Systems, LLC to keep track of registered sex offenders in their communities. Appriss, the leading provider in criminal justice technology such as VINE® and JusticeXchange®, has enhanced its victim and community notification services by partnering with Watch Systems, the nation's leading sex offender registration, verification, and community notification provider.

Since 2001, Appriss has been providing sex offender notification solutions in states including Kentucky, Nebraska, Arkansas, Wisconsin, and Indiana. Appriss currently notifies residents and businesses when registered sex offenders move into their neighborhoods. Its solutions also locate non-complaint offenders and update at-risk agencies of registered sex offenders in their area via phone, fax, or e-mail. Appriss will now be able to tap into Watch Systems' OffenderWatch to enhance law enforcement's ability to track offenders' whereabouts.

OffenderWatch is the leading hosted, web-based sex offender registration and verification database to assist sheriffs in managing the sex offender population in their communities. It promotes improved compliance with local statutes and provides a searchable, secure law enforcement database for mapping and queries. OffenderWatch also gives citizens access to local offender information in a format that was previously unavailable.

The combination of experience, secure hosting, and the leading commercial off-the-shelf application creates a powerful solution for tracking sex offenders. Together, Appriss and Watch Systems are providing services covering nearly 70,000 sex offenders— about 15 percent of the registered sex offender population in the United States.

“Over the last decade, states have developed sex offender registries, enacting some type of community notification; however, the guidelines for notifying residents vary from state to state,” said Mike Davis, Appriss president. “Working with Watch Systems will allow us to provide a deployment-ready solution for data collection, mapping and geocoding,

and use our existing services such as VINE, JusticeXchange, and AlertXpress to help law enforcement keep their citizens informed.”

Watch Systems has specialized in delivering a very targeted and specialized service to over 300 sheriffs’ offices in over 23 states. The company delivers more than 40 million maps a year to hundreds of thousands of citizens who enroll to receive e-mail alerts based on one-mile radials.

“Our ability to help residents determine the ‘geographic risk’ an offender represents is very important to public safety,” said Mike Cormaci, Watch Systems president. “The geocoding process is a very resource-intensive effort and by allowing us to take on that responsibility, law enforcement is free to focus on the registration, verification, and community notification efforts.”

About Appriss

Appriss provides innovative technology solutions that help governments serve and protect their citizens. In addition to VINE, the National Victim Notification Network, other innovative products and services include VINE Protective Order™, which automatically notifies petitioners when protective orders are served on respondents; JusticeXchange, the leading solution for connecting criminal justice agencies nationwide; and AlertXpress, a high-speed notification solution for government agencies. The company’s newest product, Methcheck™, is an automated tool that allows law enforcement agencies to monitor purchases for pseudoephedrine, one of the components in the manufacture of methamphetamine, and to “watch” specific individuals who exceed the legal limits imposed by state law.

About Watch Systems

Watch Systems is a privately held software development firm based in the New Orleans, LA area specializing in sex offender registration and community notification software and services at the state and local level. In the last six years, Watch has refined a software solution as well as supporting services that are used by more than 300 law enforcement and state agencies across the country. Success is based on the ability to link the technical service and support with the community’s demand for relevant and timely information concerning sex offenders, in a form that they can use.

For more information on Watch Systems, visit www.watchsystems.com or contact Mike Cormaci at mcormaci@watchsystems.com.

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