

Sex Offender Assessment and Risk Management: Applying the U.S. Secret Service Threat Assessment Model to Unique Sex Offenders

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The evolving difference between risk assessment and risk management is spotlighted by the development of tools such as the Stable-2000 and SRA (Structure Risk Assessment). These models are based on static risk factor assessment modified by dynamic risk factor assessment. Preventing future violence is the goal of risk assessment and is enhanced when risk management is considered. The U.S. Secret Service has developed a model for the assessment of the risk of violence and the prevention of violence where a risk for violence is present. This model has been applied workplace and school violence. Its application to sex offenders where decisions about confinement and management are important is informative. It has been applied to unique sex offenders who fall outside the developmental samples of actuarial methods.

Participants will learn:

- How this model compares and contrasts to other models of risk assessment and risk management,
- How to apply the model in clinical and forensic contexts,
- How to use the model to inform decisions about community placement, and
- How to prepare for an admissibility hearing on this model.

A case study involving the court martial of a rapist/murderer demonstrates the application of the model.