



Wisconsin Sexually Violent Person Program Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center (SRSTC)

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WHO WE ARE

- SRSTC is an institution operated by the Department of Health Services (DHS).
- Per Section 46.055, SRSTC is “a secure mental health facility for the detention, evaluation and institutional care of persons under Ch. 980.”
- SRSTC is responsible for operating the State’s Sexually Violent Persons (SVP) Program.

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HISTORY OF CHAPTER 980

- **WI had a special “Sex Crimes Law” commitment in the 1960-70s.**
 - Chapter 975 was repealed in the early 1980s.
 - Commitment under this law was in lieu of sentencing.
 - Repealed because of a lack of effectiveness.
- **Chapter 980 is Wisconsin’s Sexually Violent Persons (SVP) law.**
 - Statute created in 1994.
 - U.S. and Wisconsin supreme courts ruled on constitutionality.

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HISTORY OF CHAPTER 980

- Anticipated that program would be small.
- Original plan to house the program at WRC in Oshkosh.
- Commitment rate greatly exceeded expectations.
- **Legislature authorized construction of SRSTC.**
 - New facility opened in June 2001
 - Bed capacity of 400
 - Units of 25 beds; Specialized treatment units
 - High-security outer perimeter
 - 540 employees

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CONDITIONS TO BE PROVEN

3. Person has a mental disorder.

- Congenital or acquired condition affecting the emotional or volitional capacity that predisposes a person to engage in acts of sexual violence

4. Person is dangerous to others because the person's mental disorder makes it likely that he or she will engage in acts of sexual violence.

- Assessment utilizes actuarial instruments and structured clinical assessment and considers other relevant factors (e.g., dynamic risk factors).

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KEY COURT DECISIONS/CONCEPTS

- Chapter 980 establishes supervised release and discharge
- 1999-repealed direct court release option.
- Community placement for an individual committed under the law--as an option for the courts to consider. In its decisions on Chapter 980, the WI Supreme Court stated its view that the SR option is a key part of the law:

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- Supervised release criteria (changed in 2013):
 - Is he demonstrating significant progress in treatment?
 - Is it substantially probable that he will not engage in sexual violence while on Supervised Release?
 - Can his treatment needs be met in the community?
 - Can he be reasonably expected to comply with all Supervised Release rules and conditions?
 - Can he be safely managed with reasonable resources in the community?
- If a patient meets these criteria, then judge orders DHS to develop a Supervised Release plan
 - Some patients stipulate to SR in lieu of discharge

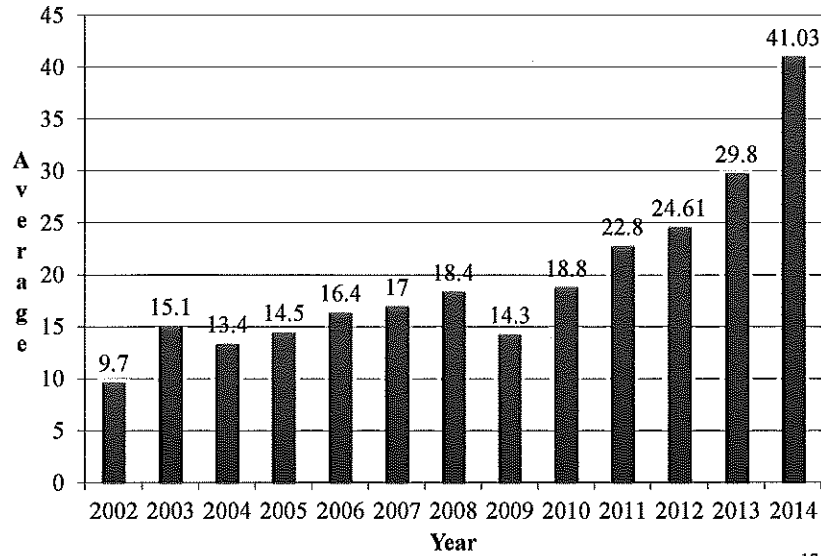
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- Supervised Release and DOC Rules
- First Year: Restrictive (similar to house arrest)
 - Direct Supervision Monitors
 - Permission to leave residence only for basic living needs (list expanded in 2013)
- Housing is most difficult challenge
 - Ordinances, proximity to vulnerable populations and other sex offenders, rental availability and affordability
 - New legislation in the process of being passed (will change search process in some ways)
 - SR Program arranges/pays for rent and all services

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HISTORICAL GROWTH RATE—SR



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CH 980 – SVP POPULATION

Current 980s

- Committed 320
- Detained 43
- Supervised Release 42
- **SR Orders 30**
- ATR 5
- Pending Revocation 9
- Dual – DOC 9

Historical 980s

- SR Placements 152
- SR Revocations 49
- Deaths 28
- SR Discharges 44
- Institution Discharges 81

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