



## U. S. Department of Justice

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **GAINESVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 42 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON** **FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER**

**GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA** – Octavius Durdley, 43, of Gainesville, Florida, was sentenced to 42 months in federal prison following his conviction on one count of failing to register as a sex offender under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). Jason R. Coody, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida, announced the sentenced.

Durdley was convicted by a federal jury in February 2022. Evidence introduced at trial revealed Durdley was originally convicted and sentenced in 2010 of a federal sex offense which required him to comply with both state and federal registration requirements. Upon his release in May 2019, he initially complied with SORNA's registration requirements. However, in October 2019, he announced his intention not to comply with any supervision or registration requirements. In December 2019, he was found to have violated his federal supervision and was sentenced to 16 months imprisonment. Following his release from prison in January 2021, he again failed to comply with his supervision or registration requirements until he was arrested in April 2021.

"This sentence is yet another example of the unwavering commitment to the protection of our most vulnerable and should serve as a significant deterrent to those who would attempt to harm them," said U.S. Attorney Coody. "We will continue to work tirelessly with our law enforcement partners to investigate and prosecute those who prey upon our children."

Durdley's prison sentence will be followed by a lifetime of supervised release, with requirements that he continue to register under SORNA.

United States Marshal Don Ladner remarked, "The U.S. Marshals are committed to ensuring that sex offenders follow all federal registration requirements. If these offenders fail to do so and break the law, we will fully investigate and prosecute their violations."

The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act ("SORNA"), which was passed by Congress in 2006 as part of the Adam Walsh Act, provides a comprehensive set of minimum standards for sex offender registration and notification in the United States and seeks to strengthen the nationwide network of sex offender registration and notification programs. In part, SORNA requires registered sex offenders to register and keep their registration current in each jurisdiction in which they reside, work, or go to school.

This conviction was the result of an investigation by the United States Marshals Service. Assistant United States Attorney F.T. Williams prosecuted this case.

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