



New Hampshire Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers

P.O. Box 813

Concord, NH 03302

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Dear Sex Offender Treatment Provider:

The NH Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) has been working on developing standards for sex offender treatment providers for the past several years. The following document is the product of that effort. Registration with NH ATSA is neither a license to practice, nor a measure of the competency of the registered professional. NH ATSA is not responsible for the quality of work performed by the NH ATSA Registered Provider.

It is important to recognize that most fields of medicine and mental health require certification and/or licensing. Treatment of sexual offenders is a specialized area of mental health counseling. We are ethically bound to treat only those individuals for whom we have demonstrated expertise and skills. The standards we are proposing are designed to identify what we believe to be basic and minimal standards of practice for those working with sex offenders.

These standards were developed by reviewing the most current standards from other states and in accordance with the ethical standards and public policy statements from ATSA. The 1997 ATSA Ethical Standards of Practice reminds us that, "*Community safety takes precedence over any conflicting consideration and is ultimately in the best interest of the abuser and his or her family.*"

We appreciate the dedication and contribution that you bring to the field of sex offender treatment. We look forward to developing a closer working relationship with you.

President of NH ATSA

Date