



**For Immediate Release**  
**May 5, 2008**

**Contact: Stacie Rumenap**  
**(202) 234-0090**

## **Stop Child Predators and FUND ADAM Urge Congress to Fund the Adam Walsh Act**

**Washington, DC** – Stop Child Predators joined with FUND ADAM to call on Congress to provide funding for the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. Stop Child Predators is a national non-profit organization that leads campaigns in every state to advocate on behalf of legislation to prevent the sexual exploitation of children and protects the rights of child victims, and FUND ADAM is a coalition of child protection advocates and victims' parents.

“Since Congress passed and President Bush signed into law the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 nearly two years ago, almost none of the enforcement programs in the Adam Walsh Act have been funded,” said Stacie Rumenap, Executive Director of Stop Child Predators. “The statistics are staggering. One in five girls and one in ten boys are sexually exploited before they reach adulthood. And it is widely believed that these statistics significantly understate the prevalence of these crimes, because many victims do not come forward to report the crime. By not funding the enforcement programs, Congress is putting our nation’s children at great risk.”

President Bush signed the Adam Walsh Act into law on July 27, 2006. One provision of the Act creates stricter requirements for sex offender registration in order to prevent offenders from slipping through the cracks and hurting our children. Of more than 550,000 nationally registered sex offenders, the whereabouts of approximately 100,000 are currently unknown.

To date, the Act has not been funded, hamstringing the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), which has been the leader in catching “lost” or unregistered offenders. The USMS has no full-time personnel working sex offender cases. Because no funding for the Act’s enforcement was included in the FY 2008 budget, the USMS is facing a severe reduction in trained agents working to apprehend child predators. It needs an additional \$50 million in funding this year to go after missing offenders.

**Stop Child Predators** ([www.stopchildpredators.org](http://www.stopchildpredators.org)) is a non-profit organization that prevents the sexual exploitation of children and protects the rights of crime victims.

**FUND ADAM** ([www.fundadam.org](http://www.fundadam.org)) was formed in 2007 to bring parents and child protection advocates together to work with policymakers to advocate for funding of the Adam Walsh Child Protection Act. Members of FUND ADAM include: The ALLY Foundation; The Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation; The Dru Sjodin Foundation; Ed and Elizabeth Smart; The Fraternal Order of Police; John and Reve Walsh; The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.