

## NOTIFICATION COMPONENT OF THE PROTECTION ORDER REGISTRY

The State of Connecticut's Protection Order Registry has a Notification Component operated by OVS. The component features automated notification to protected parties when protection orders terminate or five weeks prior to the expiration of restraining orders. A victim services advocate is available to answer questions that may arise from the notification of the order termination and provide referrals as needed. Please call **1-800-822-8428**.

### OVS HELPLINE

OVS operates a toll-free helpline (**1-800-822-8428** Connecticut only) to assist callers in obtaining information on OVS programs and services as well as referrals to various agencies that assist victims of crime and their families.

The victim services advocate assigned to the helpline provides assistance to victims whose cases are adjudicated in a court where there is no assigned advocate. Assistance may include informing victims of their rights and of upcoming court dates as well as helping victims understand the criminal justice system.

The helpline hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

### WHAT OTHER HELP IS AVAILABLE?

The Office of Victim Services offers other services to crime victims and their families. These include:

- Referrals to counseling
- Financial compensation
- Information on many victim concerns
- Planning for future safety



Office of Victim Services  
Toll-free (CT only): 1-800-822-8428  
Services: 860-263-2760

## VICTIM NOTIFICATION PROGRAMS



OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES  
*Focusing on a brighter future*

## NOTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION INMATE STATUS AFTER CONVICTION

The Office of Victim Services within the Connecticut State Judicial Branch conducts this program. Through the program, persons such as crime victims and immediate family members of inmates can be notified about changes in status of inmates sentenced to the Department of Correction. Information may include dates and locations of:

- Pardons hearings
- Sentence modifications
- Sentence reviews
- Halfway house releases
- Re-entry furloughs
- Discharges
- Parole hearings and releases
- Transitional supervision releases

OVS cannot notify persons about the following:

- Furloughs
- Persons only accused of a crime
- Convicted persons sent to state hospitals for mental illness.

However, OVS may be able to suggest how to obtain information on accused persons or furloughs.

### WHO MAY MAKE A REQUEST?

- Crime victims
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) of crime victims
- Family members of homicide victims
- Legal representative of crime victims
- Inmate's family members
- State's attorney

All requests and OVS contacts are confidential. Inmates have no access to victim request information.

## NOTIFICATION OF SEX OFFENDER STATUS CHANGE

Through the program, persons such as crime victims and guardian(s) of minor victims can be notified if the convicted sex offender applies or petitions for a change in status regarding registration with the Sex Offender Registry. The changes in status include:

- Exemption from the Sex Offender Registry registration requirements
- Restriction of the Sex Offender Registry registration requirements.
- Removal of restrictions of the Sex Offender Registry requirements.

Once registered with OVS, you will be informed of petitions or applications made to the court. Prior to granting or denying such requests, the court shall consider any information provided by you, the victim.

### WHO MAY MAKE A REQUEST TO BE NOTIFIED?

- Crime victims
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of minor crime victims

All requests and OVS contacts are confidential. Applicants or petitioners have no access to victim request information.

### WHAT ARE THE STEPS?

You must file a notification request form with OVS in order to be registered for either of the programs outlined in this brochure. Call **1-800-822-8428** for a Confidential Request for Notification of Status form.

Whenever changes in inmate status occur, OVS contacts the person who filed the notification request. He or she may also call OVS for updates. The person who filed is responsible for making sure that OVS has a current address and telephone number(s).