

OVS cannot give notification about furloughs, persons only accused of a crime, or convicted persons sent to state hospitals for mental illness, but OVS can give referrals to the state agencies that may give this information.

NOTIFICATION OF SEX OFFENDER STATUS CHANGE

Certain people may be notified if a convicted sex offender applies or asks the court for a change in status on their 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, or;
- Removal of restrictions of the Sex Offender Registry requirements.

Once registered with OVS, you will be informed of applications or requests made to the court. Before the court grants or denies the request or application, the court will consider any information given by the crime victim or the guardian of the victim.

WHO MAY REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION?

- Crime victims, or;
- Parent(s) or guardian(s) of minor crime victims.

TO REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION OF POST-CONVICTION CHANGES IN INMATE STATUS AND SEX OFFENDER STATUS CHANGES

Call OVS at 1-800-822-8428 and ask for a Confidential Request for Notification of Status of Inmate form or visit www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictims. Click on Quick Links and then select the FAQ section. FAQ 5 will get you to the form.

The completed Confidential Request for Notification of Status of Inmate form can be mailed or faxed to OVS.

All requests and OVS contacts are confidential. Applicants or petitioners do not have access to victim request information.

WHAT OTHER HELP IS AVAILABLE?

The OVS victim services advocate can help callers get information on OVS programs and services and referrals to other agencies that help crime victims and their families.

The victim services advocate helps crime victims that have cases in a court that does not have an OVS victim services advocate. Help may include informing crime victims of their rights and helping crime victims understand the criminal justice system.

The victim services advocate may also give:

- Referrals to counseling services;
- Referrals to the OVS Compensation Program;
- Referrals to community-based non-profit services providers;
- Information on many victim concerns, and;
- Safety planning.

The Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation under the ADA, call the Office of Victim Services at 1-800-822-8428.

The CT SAVIN project is sponsored by Grant No. 2009-VN-CX-0002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice. The current edition of the OJP Financial Guide provides guidance on allowable printing activities.



Office of Victim Services 1-800-822-8428
www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim
JDP-VS-11 Rev 5/10

Office of Victim Services
Helpline: 1-800-822-8428
Victim Services: 860-263-2760
CT SAVIN 1-877-846-3428

VICTIM NOTIFICATION PROGRAMS



OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES
Focusing on a brighter future

CT SAVIN gives crime victims and interested individuals access to current information about an offender's status in the criminal justice system. This is a free service.

WHO MAY REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION?

Crime victims or individuals interested in a specific criminal case may register to receive notification. All registrations and notifications are confidential and available in English or Spanish.

Notification of court events include:

- Upcoming court events;
- Notice of violation of probation;
- Change in bail;
- Sentence reduction;
- Case transferred to Juvenile Matters Court;
- Case disposition;
- Case entered in error;
- Case severed;
- Probation violation decision;
- Case transfer;
- Defendant failed to appear, or;
- Appeal.

INFORMATION NEEDED TO REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION

To register you will need to know the defendant's first and last name or the case docket number.

TO REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION BY PHONE

To register and receive notification by telephone, you will need a touch-tone telephone. You may also register more than one telephone number.

1. Call 1-877-VINE- 4CT (1-877-846-3428);
2. Select a 4 digit PIN number (the same PIN may be used with multiple telephone numbers), and;
3. Follow the instructions.

TO REGISTER FOR TTY PHONE NOTIFICATION

1. Call the Nationwide (in-bound) toll-free number for TTY devices (866-847-1298);
2. Caller will be connected with a CT SAVIN/VINE Service Representative (VSR);
3. The VSR will talk directly with the caller and manually register the caller for notifications.

TO REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION ON-LINE

1. Go to www.vinelink.com;
2. Click the state of Connecticut on the map;
3. Click on the *Offenders with Court Cases* tab under the *Search and Register* section;
4. Enter the case docket number or the offender's first and last name;
5. Entering the defendant's birthday or age range, will further narrow the search;
6. Click on the correct defendant;
7. Choose the manner of notification (below the Offender Record box) – telephone, e-mail, and/or TTY;
8. Click continue;
9. Provide information needed to receive notifications by telephone, e-mail, and/or TTY;
10. Click register, and;
11. A confirmation will appear if the registration process was successfully completed.

COURT EVENT INFORMATION

Information on criminal court events will be given to CT SAVIN three times per day: after 8:00 a.m. for any activity that occurred during the overnight hours, after 2:00 p.m. for any activity that occurred during the morning court session, and after 6:00 p.m. for activity that occurred during the afternoon session of court.

RECEIVING NOTIFICATION CALLS

Notification calls are made when CT SAVIN has a match to defendant information. Calls are made every 30 minutes until CT SAVIN learns the call has been connected in some way (for example registrant or answering machine). By entering the correct 4 digit PIN, the registrant tells CT SAVIN that the message has been received. CT SAVIN will stop calling the registrant. If the correct PIN is not entered, calls will be made every 2 hours, (up to 48 hours) until the registrant enters the correct PIN.

If you have caller ID, calls from CT SAVIN will appear as a 502 area code.

Calls from CT SAVIN will be made between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. If there is a change in bail or a defendant did not appear in court, notification will continue for 48 hours or until a correct PIN is entered.

QUESTIONS?

The Office of Victim Services (OVS) victim services advocate is available to help in the registration process or to answer questions about CT SAVIN. OVS runs a toll-free helpline to help callers get information on OVS programs and services and on the notification programs in this brochure. Call **1-800-822-8428** (toll-free in Connecticut only) to speak with a victim services advocate Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PROTECTION ORDER REGISTRY NOTIFICATION

Through the State of Connecticut's Protection Order Registry, OVS gives notification by first class mail to protected parties when protective orders end and five weeks before a restraining order ends.

An OVS victim services advocate is available to answer questions about orders of protection and provide referrals as needed.

POST-CONVICTION CHANGE IN INMATE STATUS NOTIFICATION

Registered individuals receive notification about changes in the status of inmates sentenced to the Department of Correction.

WHO MAY REGISTER FOR NOTIFICATION?

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

Registered individuals may receive notification about:

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