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## **What is M.C.V.N.N.?**

The Michigan Crime Victim Notification Network (MCVNN) is a statewide program the M.D.O.C. is participating in providing telephone notifications to victims. Telephone notifications will be made in the event of an unanticipated release. Unanticipated releases include escape, discharge by court order or release on bond.

Once a written notification request is received from victims, co-victims or other concerned citizens, they will automatically be able to receive telephone notifications in the event of an unanticipated release. They will receive a PIN (Personal Identification Number) which will need to be entered if they receive a telephone notification as listed above. This will ensure the notification was received and acknowledged.

Anyone may call the MCVNN to obtain information regarding a prisoner's status during their incarceration. You may call the MCVNN toll-free line at (800) 770-7657.

## **The Parole Consideration Process/Parole Supervision**

Victims will receive a notice at least 30 days prior to a parole review of a prisoner. At that time you may choose ONE of the following options: (All three options are treated equal.)

1. You may provide a written statement by writing a letter to the parole board.
2. You may give your statement over the phone to a member of the parole board.
3. You may give your statement by coming to Lansing and speaking to a parole board member.

Co-Victims and other concerned citizens will receive a notice at least 30 days prior to a parole review of a prisoner. You may submit written correspondence to the parole board to express any concerns you may have prior to the prisoner's parole review.

The parole board considers all relevant information when making a decision. This information includes, but is not limited to, the nature and circumstances of the offense(s), prior criminal convictions, the prisoner's personal history, physical and mental health, institutional adjustment, program completion and victim statements.

The parole board panel will review the case and make a decision. After the decision has been reached, a notice will be mailed to you within 14 days. Information about decisions will not be provided over the phone.

The parole board may grant parole with release to occur on the parole eligibility date or after a delay of three to six months. Typically the duration of a parole term is set for 24 or 36 months, however, it can be longer if deemed necessary. The board may deny the parole for periods of 12, 18 or 24 months before a new consideration date is established.

If a parole is granted, the first notification will advise you of the anticipated date of release. You will receive a second notification after the prisoner's home placement has been investigated by a parole agent. The second notification will provide the definite parole release date including the parole agent's name, address and phone number who will supervise the prisoner during parole.

## **Restitution**

When restitution is ordered by the court, it will automatically be made a special condition of the parole. The parole agent will monitor compliance with this special condition. You must provide address changes directly to the court where the prisoner was sentenced to ensure any funds collected are sent to your current address.

## **Change of Address**

It is your responsibility to keep the M.D.O.C. notified of your current address and telephone number(s) at all times. If your address or telephone number(s) changes, you must immediately notify the Crime Victim Notification Unit in writing to ensure future notifications.

## **Other Helpful Resources Available to You**

Michigan Department of Community Health, Crime Victim Services Commission at (517) 373-7373 or through their web site at [www.michigan.gov/mdch](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch)

Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) at (517) 347-7000 or through their web site at [www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org).

National Domestic Violence Center's hotline at (800) 799-7233 or through their web site at [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org).

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# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



## *Notification to Crime Victims, Co-Victims, and Other Concerned Citizens*

Grandview Plaza Building  
P.O. Box 30003  
206 East Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48909

Crime Victim Notification Unit  
(517) 373-4467 Local  
(877) 886-5401 Toll Free

[www.michigan.gov/corrections](http://www.michigan.gov/corrections)

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## **Crime Victim's Rights Act**

The Crime Victim's Rights Act, P.A. 87 of 1985, as amended, provides certain rights to victims of crimes. The prosecuting attorney is required by law to inform the victim of his or her rights under the terms of the Crime Victim's Rights Act.

Victims are required to be notified and consulted during the various steps of the criminal justice process. The victim can also submit a written or oral impact statement to the probation officer preparing the Presentence Investigation report.

In accordance with the act, the Michigan Department of Corrections (M.D.O.C.), upon the written request of a victim, must provide notification to victims regarding a prisoner's status during their incarceration.

### **Who Is a Victim?**

An individual who suffers direct or threatened physical, financial or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime is considered a "victim." Other persons such as the spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent or guardian may also qualify as a victim if the victim is deceased or is physically unable to exercise the privileges and rights of the victim under the Crime Victim's Rights Act.

### **What If I Am Threatened, in Fear or Have Other Concerns Regarding an individual within the MDOC?**

Individuals who do not qualify under the definition of a "victim," may receive some notifications outlined in the Crime Victim's Rights Act. You may also submit correspondence to the parole board for their review prior to the parole consideration process to express your concerns. You may contact the M.D.O.C. Crime Victim Notification Unit at (517) 373-4467 or toll-free (877) 886-5401.

### **How Do I Request To Be Notified?**

You may request notification by completing a M.D.O.C. Crime Victim Notification Form available from the prosecuting attorney or by contacting the M.D.O.C. Crime Victim Notification Unit.

### **Will My Name and Address Be Kept Confidential?**

Yes. Names, addresses, and phone numbers provided to M.D.O.C. are exempt from disclosure under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

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Any information submitted will also be kept confidential and will not be divulged.

### **What Will I Be Notified Of?**

- The earliest parole eligibility date. Once the prisoner has served the minimum sentence with all potential good time or disciplinary credits considered, the prisoner can be considered for parole. *This is a one-time notice.*
- The transfer of the prisoner to a minimum security facility and the address of that facility. Some minimum security facilities are defined as Secure Level I facilities, which have secure perimeters with double fences, perimeter detection systems and an armed alert response vehicle patrolling the perimeter of the facility. The Corrections Camps are also examples of minimum security facilities. Prisoners who meet the criteria for placement in a minimum security facility are normally near their parole eligibility date.
- The release of the prisoner to a Community Residential Program. This is a Community Center or facility operated by the Department of Corrections in which convicted felons who have been imprisoned are supervised prior to parole. Convicted felons are carefully screened for this "community status" and are required to work or be in school while living in these facilities. A corrections center is supervised by employees of the Michigan Department of Corrections, but not necessarily owned by the Department. Prisoners assigned to "community status" could also be housed in a private residence, including their own home, but be on electronic monitoring or "tether."
- Discharge release of the prisoner. This notice will be sent 90 days before the prisoner is discharged on him or her maximum sentence. You will also be notified if the prisoner is to be released by court order.
- Notice of a public hearing regarding a reprieve, commutation or pardon of the prisoner's sentence by the Governor, or a public hearing scheduled for a prisoner serving a life sentence where the parole board has voted to consider parole. In addition, a notice will be sent if a reprieve, commutation or pardon is granted.
- Escape of the prisoner. In the event of an escape, victims will be notified by telephone within one hour

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of the escape. This telephone notification will be followed by a written notification to victim(s).

The victim's right to provide a written, telephone or in-person statement for consideration by the parole board members. This notice will be given not less than 30 days before the parole board begins consideration of parole.

Notice of the parole board decision. This notice will be sent to you within 14 days of the decision.

Prisoner placement in Special Alternative Incarceration (SAI). SAI is a 90-day boot camp program with automatic parole upon completion for carefully screened prisoners who are serving a minimum term of three years or less. Prisoners serving for crimes of a sexual nature or certain other assaultive crimes are not eligible for placement in this program.

Prior to placing a prisoner in SAI, the M.D.O.C. must send notification to the sentencing judge to ensure the judge does not have any objections, unless the judge has already approved placement at the time of sentencing. A copy of this notification will be provided to the victim and the prosecuting attorney who may contact the sentencing court to express their support or objection of the prisoner's placement in this program.

Movement to and from Special Alternative Incarceration. Notification will be sent when a prisoner is transferred to and from the Special Alternative Incarceration program. If a prisoner successfully completes this 90-day program, they will be automatically released on parole as required by state law. If the prisoner does not successfully complete the program, he/she will be sent to a prison facility to continue serving the sentence.

Legal Name Change. Notification will be sent if a prisoner legally changes his or her name while under the jurisdiction of the M.D.O.C.

New Conviction. Notice that a prisoner has been convicted of a new crime.

Parole Violation. Notice that a prisoner has been returned from parole status to a correctional facility due to an alleged violation of the conditions of his or her parole.