Accountability Letter Bank

The Accountability Letter Bank provides offenders an opportunity to communicate to the victims in their cases their understanding of the harm caused by their crime(s), and acknowledge responsibility for the consequence of their behavior.

You may choose whether to receive notification that the offender in your case has submitted an Accountability Letter for you.

If you would like more information, please call or email us.
(800) 322-2201
docvictimservices@doc.wa.gov
www.doc.wa.gov/victims/

Facilitated Dialogue

In some cases victims or survivors may wish to meet directly with an offender while the offender is in prison.

People choose to do this for a variety of reasons which may include:

- Informing the offender about the impact of the crime.
- Asking the offender questions about why and how the crime occurred.
- Trying to assess whether the offender has changed or learned anything from the experience.

This process is not for everyone. It requires a substantial commitment of time for preparation and can have a deeply emotional impact.

Under Department of Corrections’ policy these meetings can be initiated only by the victim or survivor.

Victim Services Program

For more information about notification services, see DOC policy 390.300. For more information about the Accountability Letter Bank or Victim Offender Dialogue meetings, see DOC policy 390.350.
Advance Notification

If you choose to enroll in the Department of Corrections Advance Notification service, you will receive notification from us when the following occur:

- A date is set for the offender to release to the community.
- A date is set for the offender to transfer to work release.
- The offender dies during their confinement in prison.
- The offender escapes.
- The offender is recaptured following an escape.
- We will NOT notify when an offender transfers from one prison to another as this occurs frequently. You may call 800-322-2201 for this information.

To receive this service you must enroll and keep your contact information updated.

SAVIN Notification

You may also enroll for automated notification, which includes notification of transfers between DOC prison facilities, through the SAVIN system (also known as VINE). Call 877-846-3492 or enroll online at https://www.vinelink.com/. Please note, this service is separate and independent from DOC Advance Notification.

Work Release

Enrollees are notified when offenders transfer to a work release facility, as offenders living in these facilities will at times be in the community without being accompanied by Department staff.

The time the offender spends in a work release facility is considered “partial confinement”. This is part of the prison sentence imposed by the sentencing judge. Under current law, offenders may serve up to the last six months of their sentences in work release.

Under state law, enrollees have the opportunity to submit input to the department regarding an offender’s work release placement.

If you wish to do so, please submit your input in writing. You may submit your input using the contact information provided in this brochure.

Safety Planning

If an offender is in prison or in the community under DOC supervision, the Victim Services Program can provide assistance with safety planning.

This process involves working with you to develop a plan to reduce the risk of harm to you and your family.

Unwanted Contact From Offenders

If you receive unwanted contact from an offender, or from anyone else on behalf of an offender, please contact the Victim Services Program. We will assist in taking measures to stop the contact.

If you have been threatened or are in immediate danger, you are encouraged to contact law enforcement (911) first.

Our vision for victims and survivors of crime is that their voices are heard, valued, and included in a collective effort to hold offenders accountable, prevent future harm, and enhance community safety.

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