

**“The Prison Incarceration Period and Offender Community Reentry-
What’s Next for Victims?”**

Targeted Participants: System Based Victim Advocacy (Victim Witness) & Prosecutors

Webinar Training Dates: (Both Webinars will provide the same information)

- Friday, October 13th from 10am-12pm
- Tuesday, October 17th from 1pm-3pm

This webinar is hosted by the Department of Corrections Victim Assistance Program. As the webinar title notes, The goal is to provide system based advocacy with an overview of information that is important for victims and advocates to know once it has been determined that an offender is or will be sentenced to the Commissioner of Corrections.

This webinar was hosted by the DOC in September 2016 and as a result, victim notification registrations and victim assistance assists significantly increased since September 2016. There has been an increase in new staff as well as turnover in many counties and programs. Ensuring new staff participate in one of the two webinars will provide new advocates critical information and tools to assist them in providing essential information and tools to victims whose offenders are sentenced to the Commissioner of Corrections.

It is the goal of the DOC to make this webinar available to use as a training tool throughout the year for new victim witness or system based advocates. Therefore, after the 2nd live webinar on October 17, 2017 will be a recorded version will be available for use in a training capacity.

More importantly, it is hope that the information discussed in this webinar provides participants with important information necessary to help victims understand what is next for them and how to continue to access information and post conviction advocacy services once there has been a sentence to the Commissioner of Corrections.

Finally, the DOC Victim Assistance and Restorative Justice Program staff utilize this annual webinar opportunity to enhance the process of working with system based advocates on future training and technical assistance and developing a partnerships with system based advocacy. Those partnerships are critical when it comes to the collaborative efforts that are essential to provide a collective and seamless response to victims specifically when it comes to the issues and challenges victims face, as well as opportunities available to assist victims when the offenders who harmed them are sentenced to a Minnesota Prison.

This webinar opportunity will provide participants information about:

- Victim Notification and Victim Information regarding offenders that are sentenced to prison and then return to the community
- The role of Victim Witness Advocates in increasing victim notification registration

- Restitution: How is restitution collected and disseminated to victims once an offender is incarcerated in a state prison? What are the barriers in the DOC collecting restitution? How can Victim Witness staff help?
- Victim Identification: why is this important and what role do Victim Witness staff have?
- Victim Offender Visiting Policy: What is the policy? What do victims need to know?
- Protective Orders While In Prison: What do advocates and victims need to know and DO prior to the offender's incarceration? What should victims do if the offender attempt to contact the victim once sentenced?
- HIV Testing Court Orders: What are the critical steps that are necessary if victims want to request testing of the offender and be provided test results?
- Victim Input and Offender Intake: What input can victims provide corrections staff, what processes are in place for victims to provide input at offender intake and why is it important?
- Victim Input at offender community reentry: What input can victims provide at the time of offender reentry? What processes are in place for victims to provide input at offender intake and why is it important?
- What is the DOC Domestic Violence Response Initiative and what should advocates and victims know?
- Victim Initiated Restorative Justice Processes? What is Victim Offender Dialogue? What is the process in place for offenders that want to apologize for their behaviors and how do victims who choose to request to participate in an in person or written dialogue do so?

The Department of Corrections Victim Assistance and Restorative Justice Program looks forward to providing this very valuable training opportunity.