

Why Should I Enroll in the Victim Notification Program at a Community Corrections facility?

Now that the offender in your case has been sentenced and will be placed in a community corrections facility, we encourage you to consider enrolling in the Victim Notification Program. As a victim of a case that falls under the Victim Rights Act, you have been proactively notified about events that were occurring in your case throughout the sentencing phase. However, following the sentencing of the offender, victim/survivors must initiate enrollment in the Victim Notification Program to continue to be notified about the offender. The reason that victims/survivors are not automatically notified after an offender has been sentenced is that not all victims/survivors want to continue to be notified after sentencing. This way, the choice is up to you as to what is best for you and your family. When you enroll in a Victim Notification Program, you have the right to be notified of certain changes under the Colorado Victim Rights Act concerning the offender's status.

The choice is yours as to whether you enroll or not. If you do not enroll, you will no longer be informed of anything to do with the offender in your case. This means you will not be notified of the offender's placement into a community corrections facility, an escape from supervision, a transfer from residential to non-residential status, or the death of an offender.

What is the purpose of Community Corrections?

Community Corrections provides a sentencing or placement alternative, in lieu of prison incarceration, for felony offenders. Community corrections programs provide residential and non-residential supervision and treatment for offenders. There are 34 residential programs throughout the state of Colorado. Community corrections programs differ in organizational structure. For a map to various facilities, you can access <https://sites.google.com/a/state/co.us/dcj-community-corrections/>

How do I sign up for a Community Correction Victim Notification Program?

In cases where the Judge has sentenced the offender directly to a community correction program, you will usually need to sign up with the community corrections program directly. However, if the offender is also on Probation, the Probation Department may be the agency providing Victim Notification. Each community corrections facility and jurisdiction has their own local policy and practice with respect to victim notification for cases that are sentenced directly by the Court.

A victim/survivor wishing to be notified by a community corrections program should contact the community corrections facility where the offender has been sentenced. You will need to request notification in writing from the program where the offender has been placed. If you

have questions about where the offender has been sentenced you can contact the Victim/Witness Unit at the District Attorney's Office.

What can I expect if I enroll in a Community Corrections Victim Notification Program?

You will be notified of future events in this case, such as placement into a community corrections facility, if the offender leaves the facility without permission or absconds from nonresidential community correction status, a transfer from residential to non-residential status, steps to take in the event of any harassment or intimidation by an offender, and the death of an offender while under supervision of community corrections.

Your enrollment status and contact information will not be shared with the offender and the offender will not know that you have enrolled in the Victim Notification Program. All victim-related documentation must be kept in a separate confidential file.

Specifically, you will be kept informed of the following:

- The location and telephone number of the Community Corrections facility responsible for the supervision of the defendant
- The person's termination from Community Corrections
- Any request for release of the offender in advance of the offender's imposed sentence or period of probation (early termination)
- If the offender absconds and his/her whereabouts are unknown
- The death of the offender while under the jurisdiction of the probation department

Certain information about the offender cannot be released to the victim/survivor in a case. This includes information such as drug/alcohol treatment, mental health information and various assessments that are conducted.

Please contact Brad Kamby at 720-874-3360 to obtain additional information about the community corrections facility where the offender was placed.