



# Division of Criminal Justice

Office of  
Victim-Witness Advocacy

## ATTORNEY GENERAL STANDARDS TO ENSURE THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS

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130800



New Jersey Department of  
Law & Public Safety

# **Division of Criminal Justice**

**Office of  
Victim-Witness Advocacy**

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Law & Public Safety**

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**U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice**

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To: ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT CHIEF EXECUTIVES

From: CARY EDWARDS  
Attorney General *Cary Edwards*

Date: April 21, 1988

Subject: Attorney General Standards to Ensure the Rights of  
Crime Victims pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:4B-44a. and b.

The purpose of the attached Standards to Ensure the Rights of Crime Victims is to make the criminal justice system more responsive to the needs of those it should be serving. Victims and witnesses are indispensable to the system's ability to function; we need their cooperation in reporting crime and in helping to identify, apprehend, and convict perpetrators of crime.

On April 24, 1987, I issued the first Interim Attorney General Standards to Ensure the Rights of Crime Victims and appointed a thirty-two member Advisory Committee to examine feasibility issues and to recommend an implementation plan. The Advisory Committee has successfully completed its task and I would like to thank the members of this Committee for the time and effort that they have given to this project.

In order to effectuate these prescribed law enforcement procedures for the fair treatment of crime victims and witnesses, I have instructed the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice to promulgate the attached Standards which mandate that basic rights and services be provided to victims and witnesses by the law enforcement community when investigating and prosecuting criminal cases. All New Jersey law enforcement officers shall comply with the attached Standards.



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From: Donald R. Belsole *DRB*  
First Assistant Attorney General  
Director, Division of Criminal Justice

Date: April 21, 1988

Subject: Attorney General Standards to Ensure the Rights of  
Crime Victims pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:4B-44a. and b.

In compliance with the instructions of Attorney General Cary Edwards, and pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act of 1970, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97 et seq., and the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:4B-44a. and b., it is hereby directed that all New Jersey law enforcement officers shall follow the attached Standards to Ensure the Rights of Crime Victims, and all New Jersey law enforcement agencies shall adopt, as prescribed, such Standards as agency policy and procedure.

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# FOREWORD

Victims are the people behind crime statistics. They are the individuals who suffer the injuries inflicted by criminals and who reveal the existence of crime when they report it. Victims are the key to apprehending criminals and the justification for the State's subsequent prosecution.

Unfortunately, there are many problems, inequities and inconveniences that victims and witnesses encounter when they become involved in the criminal justice system. These problems exist in every jurisdiction in the State. Leaving aside the direct consequences of the crime itself and considering only the victim's subsequent involvement with the criminal justice system, the following are examples of the problems faced by many crime victims:

- Official indifference concerning retrieval of stolen property and advice about victim compensation;
- Insensitive, perfunctory questioning;
- Uncomfortable and insecure accommodations at the police station or in the courthouse, often involving close proximity to defendants;
- Lack of clear, lay explanations of proceedings and decisions during and after the case;
- Fear resulting from real or imagined intimidating threats and acts by defendants;
- Lack of specific procedures to assist special victim populations (i.e., elderly, children, victims of bias incidents);

Aside from the problems above, there are many more. While there are no quick remedies, the time has come after twenty-five years of judicial decisions and statutory enactments fully implementing the constitutional rights of the criminal defendants for the rights of crime victims to receive practical implementation. Many changes in criminal justice over the past two and a half decades which have benefited defendants have come about through the diligent efforts of law enforcement officials. Now, the law enforcement officials need to be equally conscientious and effective in working to assist victims and witnesses.

On April 24, 1987, Attorney General Cary Edwards issued **Interim Attorney General Standards to Ensure the Rights of Crime Victims** and appointed an Advisory Committee composed of representatives from all segments of law enforcement, victim service providers and the victims themselves. (See Appendix A-10 and A-13.) The Advisory Committee subsequently established six subcommittees to examine the Standards as they relate to municipal court, juvenile court, medical evidence exams, prisoner release, property return, and special need populations. A training subcommittee and an implementation subcommittee were also created. Commentaries provided within the context of the Standards represent the implementation recommendations and comments submitted by the Advisory Committee and related subcommittees.

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Also included within the context of the attached Standards is the Advisory Committee's plan for the steady acceleration of services to be provided to victims over the next five years. Individual Standards have been designated for implementation at three stages of development: "Immediate," "Short-Term," and "Long-Term." The meaning of these implementation terms are set forth as follows:

**Immediate Implementation**

Individual Standards that have been classified by the Advisory Committee as "Immediate" should be implemented right away. These Standards generally include those which carry a statutory mandate which is, or has been, in effect; require minimum changes to existing policy and procedure; do not require additional staffing or financial resources; and can be effectuated through training programs and standard operating procedures (s.o.p.).

**Short-Term Implementation**

Individual Standards that have been classified as "Short-Term" by the Advisory Committee should be implemented within the next two years, or by April 1990. Implementation of these Standards generally require some advance planning, changes in protocol, limited additional funding and physical facilities.

**Long-Term Implementation**

Individual Standards that have been classified by the Advisory Committee as "Long-Term" should be implemented over the next five years, or by April 1993. These Standards will generally require significant changes in, or additions to, current procedure on a multi- and inter-agency level; require complex planning and coordination efforts as well as the development of remedies for funding and resource constraints.

"Victim" means a person who suffers personal, physical or psychological injury or death or incurs loss of or injury to personal or real property as a result of a first, second, third or fourth degree offense committed against that person; or as a result of a motor vehicle accident involving another person's driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol; or as a result of a bias incident, domestic violence or a motor vehicle violation involving a fatality.

Witnesses to the above aforementioned crimes and homicide and sudden death survivors are also entitled to the rights and services contained herein, as applicable.

The Advisory Committee recognized that the Standards will place an increased burden on law enforcement agencies and that existing resources are limited. Therefore, priority shall be given to victims and witnesses of personal crime in rendering the rights and services contained herein. Victims of property crimes shall receive the prescribed services as contained herein, as feasible.

These Standards are to be reviewed annually so that necessary amendments can be made to ensure that the continued acceleration of enhanced services be provided to crime victims.

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**PART ONE:**

**VICTIM RIGHTS AND  
SERVICES DURING  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

The provisions of Part One are applicable to all law enforcement agencies. County Victim-Witness Coordinators shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of victim-witness rights within their county pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 52:4B-45b*.

**I. INFORMATION**

- A. In-person death notification shall be made to next of kin.<sup>1</sup> (**Immediate Implementation.**)
1. Notification of the next of kin should occur as soon as possible after the death is discovered and the victim's identity is determined.
  2. To the extent possible, two officers should be used to effectuate the in-person notification, and one of them should be in uniform.
  3. If the above is not possible, a police officer should secure the accompaniment of a neighbor, relative or friend, clergy or the County Victim-Witness Coordinator, when possible, to effectuate the two-person notification.
  4. The identity of the deceased and/or the facts and circumstances concerning the death should be provided to the next of kin prior to release to the media.
  5. The County Prosecutors' Homicide or Major Crimes Unit should notify the County Victim-Witness Coordinator of all sudden deaths as soon as possible.

**COMMENTARY**

It is recommended that each law enforcement agency develop a standard operating procedure (s.o.p.) regarding in-person death notification. This s.o.p. should include the agency's procedure for multi-jurisdictional contact.

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1. *Revised Homicide and Sudden Death Survivor Guidelines*, April 18, 1986.

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It is also recommended that the Basic Recruit and In-Service training curriculum approved by the Police Training Commission include a performance objective and resource material pertaining to the death notification process and the **Revised Homicide and Sudden Death Survivor Guidelines**. This curriculum should make reference to the recommended s.o.p. at the local level.

It is further recommended that County Prosecutors issue an official memorandum to those charged with investigating homicides and sudden deaths that requires them to notify the County Victim-Witness Coordinator of homicide and sudden deaths as soon as possible.

- B. Victims shall be provided with information about compensation<sup>2</sup> and the criminal justice process.<sup>3</sup> (**Immediate Implementation.**)
1. Brochures describing the criminal justice process and providing victim rights information shall be displayed in police stations.
  2. Case specific explanation of system and process shall be provided.
  3. Information shall be provided on the status of any property stolen or removed as well as procedures and regulations governing property return.
  4. Every police department shall, upon filing a report of a violent crime, make available to any victim information concerning crime victims' compensation.
  5. Every State, county and municipal police department shall have available, and shall post in a public place, informational booklets, pamphlets or other pertinent written information to be supplied by the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) relating to the availability of crime victims' compensation including all necessary application blanks required to be filed with the Board.

#### COMMENTARY

It is recommended that a standard operating procedure (s.o.p.) be developed entitled the "Victim Information Process" which identifies which officers will provide what information to which victim(s) and when.

It is further recommended that the Basic Recruit and In-Service training curriculum approved by the Police Training Commission include resource material on the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB).

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2. Criminal Injuries Compensation Act of 1971 (*N.J.S.A. 52:4B-1 et seq.*).

3. *N.J.S.A. 52:4B-36b.*

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The State Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy is charged with the responsibility of developing a brochure describing the criminal justice process for victims and witnesses and distributing it to all law enforcement agencies in the State. The development of this brochure will be accomplished in the **short-term** stage. All other Standards in Section B are considered **immediate**.

C. Procedures shall be established to ensure that victims are periodically informed of the status and closing of investigations.<sup>4</sup> (**Long-Term Implementation.**)

1. Victims shall be advised of any arrest and pre-trial release as soon as possible.

#### COMMENTARY

Every victim of violent crime should be provided with certain basic information shortly after the crime is reported either by mail or through personal contact. The victim should be informed of the name of the investigator in charge of the case and how to reach him/her, the case number or other department data retrieval information and when the case has been reassigned to a different investigator.

Upon the arrest of an offender for the commission of an offense, the arresting police agency should immediately notify, by telephone or by personal contact, the victim of the apprehension and detention of the offender. If the arrest of the offender occurs in a municipality other than the location of the offense, the investigating police agency should immediately notify, by telephone or by personal contact, the victim of the apprehension and detention of the offender.

When an investigation is closed without an arrest, the victim should be so informed.

The arresting/investigating police agency should notify the victim of the pre-trial release of the offender. Notification should be provided as follows:

Immediate telephone notification, upon the release of an offender, to victims of the crimes of or relating to Homicide, Arson, Robbery, Domestic Violence, Death by Auto, Aggravated Assault, Sexual Offenses, Child Abuse or attempts to commit said offenses.

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4. *N.J.S.A.* 52:4B-36k.

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Telephone notification within forty-eight (48) hours, upon the release of an offender, to victims of all other offenses.

Upon arrest and the signing of a warrant complaint (CDR-2), the arresting/investigating police officer should complete a victim-witness information form. (See Appendix A-1.)

When ROR bail is established prior to the offender's confinement in the county jail, the arresting/investigating police agency should provide notification to the victim of the offender's release. Said notification should include any associated conditions of the release.

When the offender is confined to the county jail, the arresting/investigating police officer should submit the victim-witness information form to the county jail with a copy of the complaint. The arresting/investigating police agency should retain a copy of the victim-witness information form.

The county jail staff should in turn provide a copy of the victim-witness information form to the County Victim-Witness Coordinator. Jail staff should retain a copy of the victim-witness information form.

If the release occurs during regular business hours, the county jail staff should immediately notify the County Victim-Witness Coordinator of the impending release of the designated defendant. The Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy should then notify the victim by telephone as well as the arresting/investigating police agency of the release.

If release occurs during nights, weekends and holidays, the county jail staff should immediately notify the arresting/investigating police agency of the impending release of the designated defendant. The arresting/investigating police agency should then notify the victim as soon as is reasonably possible. Telephone notification to the victim or a responsible member of the victim's household should be deemed sufficient. Where telephone contact is not feasible, the arresting/investigating police agency should take reasonable action under the circumstances to make personal notification. Where the arresting/investigating police agency has been unable to effect notification, the agency should inform the County Victim-Witness Coordinator promptly on the next business

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day. The Victim-Witness Coordinator should then be responsible for prompt notification to the victim.

Where the arresting/investigating agency is responsible for notification to the victim, the officer who made the initial contact with the victim should, whenever possible, be designated to provide notification to the victim of the defendant's release from custody.

Upon verification of the escape of a defendant from the custody of the county jail or the return of an escapee to confinement in the county jail, notification of the escape or return to custody of the defendant should be provided to the victim as specified above.

- D. Motor vehicle crashes/accidents involving death or serious bodily injury shall be reported to the County Prosecutor including the name, address and telephone number of the victim, or in case of death, the victim's next of kin.<sup>5</sup> (**Immediate Implementation.**)

## II. TREATMENT

- A. Immediate emergency referral capability shall include assistance with securing: (**Immediate Implementation.**)

- medical care
- mental health care
- shelter
- relocation
- food
- clothing
- child care

1. The victim must receive immediate medical care for injuries. If the victim requests medical attention, it shall be provided through:
  - on-site first aid
  - transport to medical facility
  - call for ambulance
2. Crisis intervention counseling should be provided through the use of 24-hour hotlines, emergency psychiatric services and victim assistance agencies.

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5. "Policy Statement of the Attorney General of New Jersey and the County Prosecutors Association of New Jersey Regarding Notification of Next of Kin of Death By Auto Victims and Victims of Assault by Auto," July 15, 1985.

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3. In non-emergency situations, referrals should be made to the appropriate County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy.
  4. All police departments/stations should maintain a current social service resource directory for referral.

#### COMMENTARY

It is recommended that the Basic Recruit Course and In-Service training curriculum approved by the Police Training Commission include performance objectives and resource material pertaining to State and local resources that provide the above-stated services. The curriculum should also ensure that law enforcement officials are sensitive to the needs of victims and are informed, knowledgeable and supportive of existing laws, services and programs for victims.

County Victim-Witness Coordinators and the 24-hour victim-witness hotline of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board can also provide resource information on the above-stated services.

- B. Victims should be accompanied to line-ups, photo review sessions, body identifications and medical examinations required for evidence. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
- C. Victim interviews shall be conducted in as secure, private and pleasant surroundings as are available. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
- D. The victim shall be allowed to use the telephone at the police station. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
- E. When possible, an interpreter should be made available where the victim does not speak English or is hearing impaired. (**Immediate Implementation.**)

#### COMMENTARY

It is recommended that law enforcement personnel utilize available community resources (i.e., the victims' family, friends or neighbors, non-profit organizations, volunteers, churches, etc.) to provide translators to assist victims to cooperate with law enforcement.

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board has a statewide listing of volunteer interpreters which is available from its 24-hour victim-witness hotline.

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- F. Procedures shall be established to ensure that initial medical examinations required for evidence in sexual assault cases (i.e., rape kit exams) are paid for directly by the County Prosecutor's Office. The County Prosecutors should seek reimbursement to the extent possible from the Violent Crimes Compensation Board. (**Short-Term Implementation.**)

#### COMMENTARY

The County Prosecutors should implement procedures whereby the initial medical examination of a sexual assault victim, in which samples are taken from various areas of the victim's body for evidentiary purposes, is paid for directly by the Prosecutor's Office. Hospital personnel should be instructed to send this bill directly to the County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy. If the bill does not meet the \$100.00 minimum loss required by the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 52:4B-18d.*, the Prosecutor's Office should absorb it. If it exceeds that minimum, the Prosecutor's Office should submit the bill to the Violent Crimes Compensation Board for reimbursement. If the Prosecutor's Office concludes that additional medical or psychiatric evidence is required, the Prosecutor's Office should pay for such examination. Any other bills related to medical or psychiatric care for the victim are to be sent directly to the victim; however, the victim is to be assisted by the County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy in submitting such bills to the Violent Crimes Compensation Board.

- G. Every effort shall be made to minimize inconvenience to the victim. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
1. Whenever possible, appointments shall be scheduled at the convenience of the victim.
  2. Victims and witnesses shall not be forced to wait for long periods of time to be interviewed.
  3. Whenever possible, limits should be placed upon the number of times the victim must repeat the facts surrounding the offense.
  4. All victims should have sufficient time to relate the facts of the incident as s/he knows it.
- H. When possible, property return should be accomplished within 30 days of recovery by law enforcement unless evidentiary requirements prohibit it (not applicable to firearms or contraband). (**Immediate Implementation.**)
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## COMMENTARY

Law Enforcement Chief Executives should designate an individual within their agency who is charged with the responsibility of knowing or checking up on the location and status of the property in custody. The designated officer should check on the status of prosecution for the particular case and obtain permission to return the property.

- I. Where applicable and upon verbal or written request, accident reports and autopsy reports shall be made available to the victim (or in the case of death, the victim's next of kin) as soon as these reports become available.<sup>6</sup> **(Immediate Implementation.)**
  1. Disclosure of records in juvenile cases are to be made pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 et seq.*

### III. PROTECTION

- A. Appropriate attention shall be given to investigating victim reports of threats or intimidation and these reports shall be promptly forwarded to the County Prosecutor's Office. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
  1. Victims and witnesses should be encouraged to report any incident of intimidation and harassment.
  2. Victims should be informed of potential responses to intimidation including bail revocation, restraining orders, additional charges and the availability of an escort to court.
  3. When applicable, restraining orders should be sought as a condition of bail and prepared with the complaint.

## COMMENTARY

Law enforcement officers should treat threats and acts of intimidation with sensitivity and concern. Officers should respond to and investigate these reports promptly. It is recommended that a written report be prepared when warranted upon a victim or witness complaining of intimidation and the victim be referred to the County Victim-Witness Coordinator. A written report may serve to document a pattern of intimidation that may be used at trial or at sentencing.

It is recommended that Section A-2 above be included in the aforementioned recommended standard operating procedure (s.o.p.) entitled the "Victim Information Process" at the local agency level.

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6. *N.J.S.A. 39:4-50.11c.*

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**PART TWO:**

**VICTIM RIGHTS  
AND SERVICES  
DURING PROSECUTION**

The provisions of Part Two are applicable to all local, county and State law enforcement agencies, and the State Parole Board. County Victim-Witness Coordinators shall be responsible for the implementation of victim-witness rights within their county pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 52:4B-45b*.

**I. INFORMATION**

- A. Communication to orient victims and witnesses to the criminal justice process shall commence at the same time the case is reported to the Prosecutor's Office and shall continue throughout the entire prosecution process. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
1. Information concerning directions, parking, courthouse and courtroom location, transportation and how to obtain witness fees shall be made available to victims and witnesses in an introductory letter.
  2. A pamphlet which provides a general description of the prosecutorial process and the victim's and witness's role must be forwarded to the victim or witness with an introductory letter.
  3. Orientation information about prosecutorial procedure should be provided through verbal communications.
  4. Re-enactments and courtroom walk-throughs shall be provided for victims with special needs and for all child victims and witnesses.

**COMMENTARY**

Victim/witness cooperation can be strengthened by providing advance explanation to victims and witnesses of what may be expected of them throughout the process and why the system requires this. Explanation of minor benefits such as parking privileges, transportation and witness fees may also give the victim and witness the feeling that the system has not overlooked their needs.

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The State Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy is charged with the responsibility of developing a brochure about the criminal justice process for victims and witnesses and distributing it to all law enforcement agencies in the State.

B. The notification system shall consist of a series of form letters which correspond to each significant phase of criminal prosecution. The events listed below represent the minimum notifications that must be provided to all victims and witnesses and a designated survivor of a homicide victim regarding case status. Law enforcement officers who are case witnesses should be provided with notification as to disposition, as applicable. Notifications on juvenile cases shall be made as applicable and pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 et seq.* (**Immediate Implementation.**)

1. Initial contact or introductory letter that informs the victim or witness that the case has been referred to the Prosecutor's Office, and explains and offers the services available from the County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy.
2. Pre-grand jury remand.
3. Administrative dismissal.
4. Grand jury remand.
5. Grand jury dismissal (no bill).
6. Indictment returned (true bill).
7. Acceptance into Pre-Trial Intervention Program.
8. Termination from or completion of Pre-Trial Intervention Program.
9. Negotiated plea on all charges.
10. Release on bail/conditions of bail.<sup>7</sup>
11. Fugitive status.
12. Court dismissal.
13. Sentencing date.
14. Sentence imposed on the defendant by the court.
15. Defendant's filing of an appeal<sup>8</sup> and subsequent status changes.<sup>9</sup>
16. Disposition on all charges.
17. Mistrial/retrial.
18. Mistrial/dismissal.
19. Other unique or special occurrences.

C. Notification of case status regarding child abuse should be made to an appropriate, designated parent, guardian or caretaker and, if applicable, to the Division of Youth and Family Services. (**Immediate Implementation.**)

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7. Short-Term Implementation.

8. Short-Term Implementation.

9. Long-Term Implementation.

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For notification purposes, the Prosecutor's Office should identify when a victim or witness is a child on all official paperwork to prevent notification from being sent directly to the child.

- D. Five business day's advance notice of trial dates shall be given to victims whether or not their presence is required. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- E. Five business day's advance notice of the sentencing hearing date shall be given to victims. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- F. Victims shall be advised of their ability to attend the sentencing hearing. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- G. Victims of acts committed by defendants convicted of first and second degree offenses shall be routinely informed in writing of their right to provide a victim impact statement to a Senior Hearing Officer of the Parole Board.<sup>10</sup> **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- H. The victim, or the next of kin if the victim is deceased, shall be notified of any determination to seek or decline prosecution in motor vehicle crashes/accidents involving another person's driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.<sup>11</sup> **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- I. After disposition of the case, victims should be notified as soon as possible of a defendant's release from custody and any associated conditions of that release. **(Long-Term Implementation.)**

#### COMMENTARY

It is recommended that the following agencies implement procedures as follows:

##### **State Parole Board**

Upon receipt of a victim registration form, the State Parole Board should send an acknowledgement letter to the victim with a copy to the County Prosecutor's Office. (See Appendix A-2.)

When a parole release decision is rendered in the case of State, county or juvenile inmate sentenced by the Superior Court, the State Parole Board should provide notification to the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office within fifteen (15) working days of that decision.

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10. *N.J.S.A.* 30:4-123.54.

11. "Policy Statement of the Attorney General of New Jersey and the County Prosecutors Association of New Jersey Regarding Notification to Next of Kin of Death By Auto Victims and Victims of Assault By Auto," July 15, 1985.

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When a parole release decision is rendered in the case of any inmate for whom there was received a victim input registration form, the State Parole Board should notify the registered victim within fifteen (15) working days of that decision. A copy of such notification should, at the same time, be forwarded to the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office. (See Appendix A-3.)

The State Parole Board should notify a registered victim of the filing by an inmate of a petition for executive clemency within thirty (30) days of receipt of the petition. (See Appendix A-4.)

Upon receipt of the Governor's decision concerning an inmate's application for executive clemency, the State Parole Board should notify the registered victim of the decision within ten (10) working days. A copy of such notification should, at the same time, be forwarded to the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office.

Upon receipt of notification from the Department of Corrections of the release of an inmate for any reason other than parole, the State Parole Board should, within ten (10) working days, notify the registered victim of the inmate's release. (See Appendix A-5.)

Notification as required in the above sections should also be provided to homicide and sudden death survivors who have registered with the State Parole Board.

### **State Department of Corrections**

The State Department of Corrections should, in the case of inmates committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections, notify the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office of the pending release of an inmate due to the expiration of sentence. The notice should include the projected expiration date and a copy of said notice should, at the same time, be forwarded to the State Parole Board. (See Appendix A-6.)

- a.) In the cases of inmates confined in State correctional facilities, the Department should forward notice of the projected expiration date within thirty (30) days in advance of said date.

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- b.) In the cases of State inmates confined in county jail facilities, the Department should forward notice of the projected expiration date within three (3) days of being notified by county jail staff of the expiration date.

The State Department of Corrections should, in the cases of inmates committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections, notify the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office of the intended release from custody of an inmate for any reason other than parole. Notice should be provided prior to release of the inmate. A copy of said notice should be provided to the State Parole Board. (See Appendix A-6.)

The Department of Corrections should immediately notify the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office by phone upon verification of the escape of an inmate from the custody of the Department of Corrections. The notification of escape should include the indictment number, the arresting/investigating agency, the name of the victim and the victim's residence as may be recorded in the pre-sentence investigation report.

County Prosecutors' Offices should provide the Department of Corrections with alternate telephone numbers in order that notification requirements may be complied with in the cases of weekend and night escapes.

The Department of Corrections should immediately notify the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office by phone upon the return of an escapee to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

#### **County Jail Wardens**

The Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail should, in the cases of inmates committed to the County Jail by the Superior Court, notify the County Prosecutor's Office of pending release of an inmate due to the expiration of sentence. Such notice should include the projected expiration date and should be forwarded fifteen (15) days in advance of the projected expiration date. (See Appendix A-7.)

The Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail should, in the cases of inmates committed to the County Jail by the Superior Court, notify the County Prosecutor's Office of the intended release from custody of an inmate for any reason other than parole. Notice should be provided prior to release of the inmate. (See Appendix A-7.)

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The Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail should immediately notify the County Prosecutor's Office by telephone upon verification of the escape of any inmate committed to the County Jail by Superior Court. The notification of escape should include the indictment number, the arresting/investigating agency, the name of the victim and the victim's residence as may be recorded in the pre-sentence investigation report.

County Prosecutors' Offices should provide the Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail with alternate telephone numbers in order that notification requirements may be complied with in the cases of weekend and night escapes.

The Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail should immediately notify the County Prosecutor's Office by telephone upon the return of an escapee to custody.

#### **County Juvenile Detention Center Wardens**

The Warden of a County Juvenile Detention Center should notify the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office of the pending release of a juvenile due to the expiration of sentence. Such notice should include the projected expiration date and should be forwarded fifteen (15) days in advance of the projected expiration date. (See Appendix A-8.)

The Warden of a County Juvenile Detention Center should notify the County Prosecutor's Office of the intended release from custody of a juvenile for any reason. Notice should be provided prior to the release of the juvenile. (See Appendix A-8.)

The Warden of a County Juvenile Detention Center should immediately notify the County Prosecutor's Office by telephone upon verification of the escape of a juvenile from the facility. The notification of escape should include the juvenile complaint number, the arresting/investigating agency, the name of the victim and the victim's residence if available.

County Prosecutors' Offices should provide to Wardens alternate telephone numbers in order that notification requirements may be complied with in the cases of weekend and night escapes.

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The Warden of a County Juvenile Detention Center should immediately notify the County Prosecutor's Office by telephone upon the return of the escapee to custody.

Notification as required in the above sections should be provided in the cases of juveniles committed to said facilities upon adjudication of delinquency for an offense that if committed by an adult would constitute a crime.

### **County Prosecutors**

Upon receipt of public notice, issued by the State Parole Board, of inmates eligible for parole consideration, the County Prosecutor's Office should notify a victim of the inmate's eligibility for parole consideration when the victim is not eligible to submit a victim input registration form to the Parole Board. Such notice should be provided to the victim within five (5) working days.

Upon receipt of a parole release decision from the State Parole Board, the County Prosecutor's Office should, within five (5) working days, notify those victims who were ineligible to register with the Parole Board of the Board's decision. (See Appendix A-9.)

The County Prosecutor's Office, upon receiving notice from the Department of Corrections of the escape of an inmate committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections, should inform the victim of the escape by telephone within twenty-four (24) hours. If there is no telephone access to the victim, the County Prosecutor's Office should contact the appropriate Municipal Police Department in order that the police may inform the victim of the inmate's escape. Police notification, when necessary, should occur within twenty-four (24) hours.

Upon receipt from the Department of Corrections or the Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail or Juvenile Detention Facility of the projected release date of an inmate due to expiration of sentence, the County Prosecutor's Office should notify the victim of the pending release within five (5) working days. (See Appendix A-9.)

Upon notification from the Department of Corrections or Chief Executive Officer of a County Jail or Juvenile Detention Facility of the release of any inmate, for any

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reason other than parole, the County Prosecutor's Office should notify the victim within five (5) working days. (See Appendix A-9.)

Upon receipt of notification that an inmate has submitted a petition for Executive Clemency, the County Prosecutor's Office should notify the victim of the petition. (See Appendix A-9.)

## II. TREATMENT

### A. Every effort shall be made to minimize inconveniences to the victim. (**Immediate Implementation.**)

1. Victim interviews shall be conducted in private surroundings.
2. Whenever possible, limits should be placed upon the number of times the victim must repeat the facts surrounding the offense.
3. Victims must not be forced to wait for long periods of time to be interviewed or to testify.
4. Whenever possible, appointments should be scheduled at the convenience of the victim.
5. On-call subpoenas should be used. Victims and witnesses should be instructed on the subpoena form to telephone a designated person in the County Prosecutor's Office 24 hours in advance of time and date on subpoena to reduce unnecessary trips to the courthouse and waiting time. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
6. A separate, comfortable waiting area monitored by the County Victim-Witness Coordinator should be provided so that a victim or witness does not have to confront the defendant, defendant's family and friends, defense counsel or defense witnesses. Magazines, newspapers, refreshments and toys for children should also be available.<sup>12</sup>
7. Complimentary parking should be made available to victims and witnesses who are requested to appear. If necessary, this service should be arranged with a parking facility located within the immediate area of the courthouse. Payment arrangements with the parking facility should be negotiated in advance or the victim or witness should be reimbursed for costs incurred.<sup>13</sup>
8. Reasonable reimbursement for use of public transportation and/or cab fare should be provided upon request when the victim's appearance in court is required.<sup>14</sup>

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12. Short-Term Implementation.

13. Short-Term Implementation.

14. Short-Term Implementation.

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9. Travel and lodging arrangements and expenses for out-of-state witnesses should be provided by the Prosecutor's Office when their appearance in court is required.

#### COMMENTARY

The Assistant Prosecutor and Basic Detective and Investigator training curriculum should contain information and teaching strategies to ensure that prosecutors and investigators are sensitive to the needs of victims and are informed, knowledgeable and supportive of existing laws, services and programs for victims.

- B. Property retained for prosecution should be returned as soon as possible but not later than 45 days of the judgment of conviction unless evidentiary requirements pertaining to an appeal prohibit it (not applicable to firearms and contraband).  
**(Immediate Implementation.)**

#### COMMENTARY

Victims should not have to battle the justice system to get their property back or wait for months or years for its return. There are, of course, some items that will have particular evidentiary significance because of their character or condition and these must be retained. Other items, however, can be presented to the jury just as effectively by photograph. Prosecutors should recognize their responsibility to release property as expeditiously as possible, to take the initiative in doing so, and to establish the procedures necessary to bring this about.

- C. Prosecutors and the court should take any appropriate action necessary to provide a speedy trial in a matter in which a child 13 years of age or younger is a victim.<sup>15</sup>  
**(Immediate Implementation.)**
- D. Prosecutors should attempt to provide a speedy trial in all cases involving victims of violent crime. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
1. Prosecutors should attempt to limit case continuances. When such delays are necessary, practices should be established which promote continuance dates that are convenient to victims and witnesses; that those dates are secured in advance; and that the reasons for the continuances are adequately explained to the victim.

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15. P.L. 1987 c. 148.

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## COMMENTARY

Continuances can result in the ultimate unavailability of some witnesses and the fading memory of others. Prosecutors should oppose continuances except when they are necessary for the accomplishment of legitimate investigatory procedure, trial tactic or to accommodate the scheduling needs of victims. Whenever possible, it should be determined in advance if a continuance is to be granted and the victim should be informed.

- E. Where practical, restitution requests should be made routinely by the prosecutor based on interviews with the victim. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
  - 1. Restitution to the victim should be sought wherever appropriate as part of the plea agreement and/or at the sentencing proceeding. In addition, restitution should be sought in connection with applications for pre-trial intervention.
- F. Whenever possible, victims shall be provided the opportunity to consult with the prosecutor prior to dismissal of the case or the finalization of a plea agreement with the defense. Nothing contained herein should be construed to alter or limit the authority or discretion of the prosecutor to enter into any plea agreement which the prosecutor deems appropriate. (**Immediate Implementation.**)
- G. When appropriate, the views of victims of violent crime should be brought to the attention of the court on bail decisions, continuances, plea agreements, dismissals, sentencing and restitution. Practices should be established that promote opportunities for victims to make their views on these matters readily known. (**Short-Term Implementation.**)

## COMMENTARY

Restitution should be ordered in every case in which the victim has suffered monetary loss. Prosecutors should inform victims of the availability of restitution, and ensure that the court is made aware of the victim's losses so that a restitution order is accurate and inclusive. Prosecutors should consider the issue of restitution for the victim in charging and plea negotiation decisions which may affect the amount of restitution the court can order.

It is recommended that prosecutors consult with every victim of violent crime, explaining how the plea negotiation process operates, what negotiating posture the prosecution has adopted and why that posture was chosen. Prosecutors

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should always attempt to take into account the victim's views before reaching a final decision. Victims legitimately view the resolution of and sentencing in a case as an evaluation of the harm done to them.

Whenever the prosecutor considers the dismissal of a case involving violent crime, the victim should be consulted in advance and told the reasons for the prosecutor's decision.

Victims should be allowed to convey the information that they possess to the judge that will determine case outcomes. The prosecutor is in the best position to ensure that the victim is accorded a proper role in the criminal justice system.

- H. All prosecutors and investigators should establish and maintain direct contact with their County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy.

#### COMMENTARY

County Prosecutors' staff should make themselves aware of the victim-witness services that are available and ensure that victims are informed of them.

### III. PROTECTION

- A. Appropriate attention shall be given to investigating victim or witness reports of threats or intimidation. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
1. Victims and witnesses shall be encouraged to report any incident of intimidation and harassment.
  2. Victims should be informed of potential responses to intimidation including bail revocation, restraining orders, additional charges and escort to court.
  3. When applicable, restraining orders should be sought as a condition of bail and prepared with the complaint.
  4. Transportation and court accompaniment shall be provided for fearful or intimidated victims.

#### COMMENTARY

It is recognized that it may often be difficult to file charges of witness intimidation. There may be no identifiable perpetrator for harm directed at a victim or witness. But when a suspect is identified, prosecutors should charge and prosecute vigorously.

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## **PART THREE:**

# **SPECIAL VICTIM POPULATIONS**

Some victims will require special recognition, attention and treatment. These victims and standards are identified as follows: (**Immediate Implementation.**)

### **I. CHILDREN**

- A. Notification of case status should be given first to the parent or caregiver who can assist in providing verbal notice to the child and decide what notice should be given.
- B. Information should be given to children in language and detail appropriate to their age.
- C. Every possible effort should be made to have the child accompanied by a parent, familiar person or victim advocate.
- D. Referrals for services must be effected through parents to specially trained therapists with on-going support and follow-up with the same designated therapist.
- E. Special attention should be given to discussing with a child victim how to respond to intimidation or threats.
- F. Consideration should be given to the child's schedule.

### **II. VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE**

- A. Law enforcement's response to incidents of domestic violence should be in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 2C:25-1 et seq.* and county-wide and local departmental standard operating procedures (s.o.p.).
- B. Victims should be advised at the earliest possible stage of the availability of shelters, legal services and counseling.
- C. If the victim is out of the household and her safety is in question, her address should not be disclosed in the absence of a court order.

### **III. PERSONS WITH A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HANDICAP OR SOCIAL DISABILITY**

- A. Wheelchairs and appropriate transportation should be made available when the victim or witness is required to appear.

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- B. Interpreters to deal with the deaf and trained counselors to deal with the mentally retarded, etc., should be made available so that the victim can describe the attacker or the event to the police; so that notifications and contact letters can be communicated to the victim; and so that pre-sentence and parole impact statements can be prepared.

#### IV. ELDERLY VICTIMS

- A. Transportation to police stations and courthouses should be provided or arranged when the victim is needed to give statements or to testify.
- B. When necessary, wheelchairs should be made available.
- C. Prompt and proactive assistance should be given with Violent Crimes Compensation Board applications.
- D. Assistance should be provided with pre-sentence and parole impact statements.
- E. All elderly victims should be encouraged to call the County Victim-Witness Coordinator if there is anything they don't understand or need help with.
- F. When necessary, home visits should be provided to elderly victims by County Victim-Witness Coordinators.

#### V. HOMICIDE AND SUDDEN DEATH SURVIVORS

- A. Law enforcement's response to incidents of homicide and sudden death should be in accordance with the **Revised Homicide and Sudden Death Survivor Guidelines**, April 18, 1986.
- B. In a municipal court case involving a Title 39 (motor vehicle or traffic laws) violation or any other case involving directly or indirectly a motor vehicle accident, the municipal prosecutor is to inform the municipal court judge **in writing**, during the initial appearance of a defendant before the court, of the death of any person resulting from the violation of the motor vehicle or traffic laws by the defendant or resulting from a motor vehicle accident which occurred during the violation of any other law by the defendant.<sup>16</sup>

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16. P.L. 1987 c. 307.

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## VI. VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

- A. Victims of sexual offenses shall be provided with printed information supplied by the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) containing the location of rape crisis centers in all geographical areas throughout the State and instructing victims of sexual offenses that if a rape crisis center is not available in their immediate geographical area, the victim may contact the appropriate County Victim-Witness Coordinator. Unless the victim requires immediate medical attention, this printed information shall be personally conveyed to the victim of a sexual offense by a representative of the hospital or place of emergency care before a medical examination of the victim is conducted, or by a representative of the police department before the victim's statement is taken to afford the victim the opportunity to have assistance from the rape crisis center or County Victim-Witness Coordinator during these procedures.<sup>17</sup>
- B. Prompt assistance should be provided with Violent Crimes Compensation Board applications.
- C. Pamphlets should be made available on AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.
- D. Waiting time should be minimized in courthouses or police stations so as to reduce possible further contact with the accused.

## VII. VICTIMS OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS OR ETHNICALLY MOTIVATED ACTS

- A. Law enforcement's reponse to incidents of racial, religious or ethnically motivated crimes should be in accordance with the Attorney General **Bias Incident Investigation Standards—Policy and Procedures for New Jersey Law Enforcement**, January 28, 1988.

## VIII. NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS WHO ARE RELATIVES OR SURVIVORS OF VICTIMS OF CRIMES THAT OCCURRED IN ANOTHER STATE

- A. When a next of kin of a New Jersey resident is a homicide victim or the victim of a violent crime in another state, it is extremely difficult for the relative in New Jersey to secure information about the attacker or the progress of the attacker's prosecution in the other state. It is recommended that the appropriate County Prosecutor in New Jersey obtain such information for the New Jersey next of kin and transmit it through the County Victim-Witness Coordinator in each county.

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17. *N.J.S.A.* 52:4B-22.

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## COMMENTARY

It is recommended that there be joint trainings at the county police academies and at the New Jersey State Police Training Center in Sea Girt for police, prosecutor's investigators, County Victim-Witness Coordinators and Violent Crimes Compensation Board staff, with instructors drawn from those groups in the same way that joint training has been conducted in the area of child abuse.

Training for County Victim-Witness Coordinators should be developed to include the special circumstances and needs of the aforementioned victim populations.

It is recommended that the Basic Recruit and In-Service training curriculum approved by the Police Training Commission include a performance objective and resource material pertaining to special victim populations.

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**PART FOUR:**

**STATE AND COUNTY  
OFFICES OF VICTIM-WITNESS  
ADVOCACY SERVICES**

A. The following services shall be provided by the State and County Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy.<sup>18</sup> (See Appendix A-21.) These services shall be described in a program brochure and disseminated to all victims whose cases have reached the County Prosecutor's Office. Additionally, the brochure should be displayed in an information rack and placed in victims' waiting and reception areas or courthouses. Victims should be informed of the following services provided through the program: **(Immediate Implementation.)**

1. Crisis intervention and short-term counseling.
2. Referrals for other needed services.
3. Orientation to the criminal justice system.
4. Case status information.
5. Transportation.
6. Child care.
7. Assistance with Violent Crimes Compensation Board claims.
8. Restitution and other forms of financial entitlements.
9. Assistance with property return.
10. Court accompaniment.
11. Employer, school, landlord, creditor intercession services.
12. Victim-witness waiting/reception areas separated from defendant, defendant's family or friends, defense counsel or defense witnesses.
13. Victim impact statements.
14. Document replacement assistance.
15. Crime prevention information.

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18. *N.J.S.A.* 52:4B-44.1-16.

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- B. The Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall provide social service referrals. Referral services shall minimally include: **(Immediate Implementation.)**
1. Counseling.
  2. Support groups.
  3. Crime prevention.
  4. Treatment programs (drug, alcohol, domestic violence).
  5. Medical attention.
  6. Emergency shelters.
  7. Homemaker services.
  8. Food and clothing.
  9. Financial entitlements.
- C. Crime prevention information includes pamphlets concerning home security and personal safety and shall be displayed in an information rack or similar device and placed where victims and witnesses will see them and take them, such as victim-witness waiting/reception areas or courthouses. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
1. Referral to crime prevention services such as Operation ID, lock repair and home security surveys will be offered routinely to all victims of property offenses. A resource file of providers of these services and crime prevention officers shall be maintained by the County Victim-Witness Coordinator.
- D. Victims will be provided with employer, school and creditor intercession services which shall include verbal or written notification of required court appearance where applicable, as well as advocacy on behalf of the victim in minimizing losses associated with their victimization. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
1. The Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy will maintain an employer notification form which will be completed and supplied to the victim/witness or mailed to the employer upon request. Verbal notification to the employer may also be made when appropriate.
- E. County Victim-Witness Coordinators shall maintain a current comprehensive resource directory of all available service agencies in their jurisdiction. The County Victim-Witness Coordinator will contact the selected service resource prior to actual referral to introduce the client and situation at hand, facilitate effective service and overcome unnecessary delays. A previously established rapport and protocol with selected service agencies should be established and follow-up contact concerning the victim's satisfaction and progress should be made. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- F. Compensation for injuries resulting from violent crime is available to qualified applicants from the Violent Crimes Compensation Board. Assistance will be made available to victims by providing information on and referral to the Violent Crimes
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Compensation Board. This involves advising the victim about compensation, explaining eligibility, providing and assisting with the completion of claim forms, and providing assistance in gathering verification of losses and damages. **(Immediate Implementation.)**

- G. County Victim-Witness Coordinators will advise victims of their right to seek restitution, where applicable, and advocate on behalf of victims in seeking these entitlements. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- H. Transportation to and from the courthouse will be provided or arranged for upon request, when the victim's or witness's appearance in court is required. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
  - I. Transportation assistance for meeting counseling appointments or other service needs should involve helping the victim to identify possible resources, such as public transportation, family, friends or volunteers and making necessary arrangements, when necessary.
- I. Child care should be provided when the victim's appearance in court is required. Child care should be provided on-site in a safe, comfortable, appropriately furnished area. The child care facility should be staffed by appropriate personnel from the County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy or the Sheriff's Department. An age limit of three years will be maintained. For children under the age of three, child care assistance may be provided through referral to other service resources or reimbursement to the victim for babysitting costs. **(Long-Term Implementation.)** The County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall develop and maintain a resource file of child care providers for information and referral purposes. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- J. All victims involved in the prosecution of a case shall be informed in writing by the Office of Victim Witness Advocacy of their right to provide victim impact statements at sentencing. The County Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall offer to provide assistance in preparing the statement. **(Immediate Implementation.)**
- K. The Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall provide assistance to the victim with the victim input procedure to the Parole Board. **(Immediate Implementation.)**

#### COMMENTARY

The State Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy within the Division of Criminal Justice shall provide limited funding to the County Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy from the Victim-Witness Advocacy Fund pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 2C:43-3.1*. Technical assistance shall also be rendered to the County Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy on the delivery of the above-stated services.

Office space for the County Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy shall be provided by the County Prosecutor's Office, as available and by each municipality at minimal or no cost.<sup>19</sup>

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19. *N.J.S.A. 52:4F-45c. and d.*

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# APPENDICES

# VICTIM-WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_ Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ Arresting/Investigating Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim(s)/Witness(es) Address and Telephone Number(s) where release notification shall be made: (Circle V for Victim or W for Witness)

Name	Address	Telephone No.
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V/W \_\_\_\_\_

V/W \_\_\_\_\_

V/W \_\_\_\_\_

V/W \_\_\_\_\_

V/W \_\_\_\_\_

V/W \_\_\_\_\_

Most Serious Crime Charged: \_\_\_\_\_

Was victim/witness literature provided to the victim?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If No, explain why.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Was victim/witness informed of the right to immediate notification of the defendant's release in a case of the following crimes? Homicide, Arson, Robbery, Domestic Violence, Death by Auto, Aggravated Assault, Sexual Offenses and Child Abuse.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

In the case of all other crimes, was the victim/witness informed of the right to notification of release of the defendant within forty-eight (48) hours?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Did the victim/witness request to be notified of the defendant's release on bail?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Arresting/Investigating Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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# STATE PAROLE BOARD LETTER #1

DATE

VICTIM NAME  
ADDRESS

RE: Inmate Name and State/County  
Identification Number

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

We are in receipt of your registration form indicating your desire to participate in the State Parole Board Victim Input Program.

You will be informed in advance of the inmate's eligibility for parole consideration in order that you may have the opportunity to present to the State Parole Board information regarding the crime and the effects of the crime committed against you. The information may be submitted by you in a written statement or, if you wish, a hearing before a Senior Hearing Officer will be scheduled.

The hearing, if you desire one, will be conducted in private. The inmate will not be present. The statements provided by you may be deemed confidential at your request and upon the determination that the release of the statement or testimony to the inmate would endanger your future safety.

It is not necessary to wait until the inmate nears parole eligibility. If you wish to submit a written statement or request a hearing prior to that time, you may do so at your convenience.

If you have any questions about the program you may write me at the above address or call me at (609) 292-4582.

Sincerely,  
NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD

Victim Input Unit

c: Prosecutor's Office

# STATE PAROLE BOARD LETTER #2

DATE

VICTIM NAME  
ADDRESS

RE: Inmate Name and State/County  
Identification Number

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

Thank you for participating in the State Parole Board's Victim Input Program.

This is to inform you that the Board has rendered the following decision in the case of

\_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_ :

- Parole has been denied
- Parole has been granted effective *month, day, year*. In addition to general conditions of parole, the following special conditions have been imposed:
  - Fine, penalty or restitution payment. *Amount*
  - Random urine monitoring.
  - Outpatient drug counseling.
  - Outpatient alcohol counseling.
  - Mental health counseling.
  - Intensive parole supervision.
  - Other. \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,  
NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD

Victim Input Unit

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# STATE PAROLE BOARD LETTER #3

DATE

VICTIM NAME  
ADDRESS

RE: Inmate Name and State  
Identification Number

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

The Victim Input Unit has been informed that \_\_\_\_\_ , # \_\_\_\_\_ has applied for Executive Clemency. This is a process by which inmates may petition the Governor for modification of sentence(s).

Since our files indicate you registered to provide input prior to parole consideration for this inmate, you may also wish the opportunity to provide input prior to any consideration of clemency. If you wish to submit a written statement, you may do so by mailing it to the above address.

If you prefer, you may be interviewed in person by a Board staff person. To do so, you may write the Victim Input Unit or call (609) 292-4582. The interview, if you desire one, will be conducted in a relaxed, informal setting by a Senior Hearing Officer. The inmate will not be present and your statements will be deemed confidential.

Please contact us if you wish to either submit a written statement or schedule an interview.

Sincerely,  
NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD

Victim Input Unit

c: Prosecutor's Office

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# STATE PAROLE BOARD LETTER #4

DATE

VICTIM NAME  
ADDRESS

RE: Inmate Name and State  
Identification Number

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

This is to inform you that Inmate \_\_\_\_\_ , # \_\_\_\_\_ :

- Will be/has been released from the custody of the Department of Corrections on *month, day, year* as the result of:
  - Modification in Sentence.
  - Court Recall.
  - Placement in Intensive Supervision Program (I.S.P.).
  - Sentence Expiration.
  - Bail Pending Appeal.
  - Reversal of Conviction.
- Died while incarcerated.

Very truly yours,  
NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD

Victim Input Unit

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# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS LETTER

DATE

PROSECUTOR  
COUNTY

RE: Inmate Name and State  
Identification Number  
Indictment Number

Dear Prosecutor \_\_\_\_\_ :

This is to inform you that Inmate \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_ :

- Will be released from custody by the Department of Corrections on *month, day, year* as the result of:
  - Modification in Sentence.
  - Court Recall.
  - Placement in Intensive Supervision Program (I.S.P.).
  - Sentence Expiration.
  - Bail Pending Appeal.
  - Reversal of Conviction.
- Died while incarcerated.

Very truly yours,

c: State Parole Board

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# COUNTY JAIL WARDEN LETTER

DATE

PROSECUTOR  
COUNTY

RE: Inmate Name and County  
Identification Number  
Indictment Number

Dear Prosecutor \_\_\_\_\_ :

This is to inform you that Inmate \_\_\_\_\_ , # \_\_\_\_\_ :

- Will be released from custody by the \_\_\_\_\_ County Jail on *month, day, year* as the result of:
  - Modification of Sentence.
  - Court Recall.
  - Placement in Intensive Supervision Program (I.S.P.).
  - Sentence Expiration.
  - Bail Pending Appeal.
  - Reversal of Conviction.
- Died while incarcerated.

Very truly yours,

# COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER WARDEN LETTER

DATE

PROSECUTOR  
COUNTY

RE: Juvenile Name  
Juvenile Complaint Number

Dear Prosecutor \_\_\_\_\_ :

This is to inform you that Inmate \_\_\_\_\_ , # \_\_\_\_\_ will be released from custody by the \_\_\_\_\_ Juvenile Detention Center on *month, day, year* as the result of:

- Modification of Sentence.
- Court Recall.
- Expiration of Term.

Very truly yours,

# PROSECUTOR LETTER

DATE

VICTIM/WITNESS NAME  
ADDRESS

RE: Inmate Name and State/County  
Identification Number

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

This is in response to your request to remain apprised of the custodial status  
of \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_.

- ( ) The State Parole Board has informed our office that a parole release date of *month, day, year* has been established for the above-named inmate.
- ( ) The Department of Corrections, County Jail or Juvenile Detention Center has informed our office that the above-named inmate will be released from custody on *month, day, year* as the result of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ( ) The State Parole Board has informed our office that the above-named inmate has filed a petition for Executive Clemency. If you wish the opportunity to provide information pertaining to this offender's case, please contact the State Parole Board—Victim Input Unit at CN 862, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 or (609) 292-4257.

Very truly yours,

# ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## ATTORNEY GENERAL STANDARDS TO ENSURE THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 52:4B-44a and b.

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Assistant Attorney General  
Division of Criminal Justice

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Barbara Carter  
Gloucester County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Angela Chimento  
Victim Representative

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Assistant Prosecutor  
Bergen County

Cheryl Edwards  
Director, Domestic Violence Prevention Program  
Division on Women

Pamela J. Fisher  
Chief, Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
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Mary Effie Gunther-Raney  
Mercer County Victim-Witness Coordinator

John Kaye  
Monmouth County Prosecutor

John P. McCarthy, Jr.  
Assistant Director, Criminal Justice  
Administrative Office of the Courts

John McMahon  
Essex County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Patrick Meehan  
President, New Jersey State Lodge of the Fraternal  
Order of Police  
Newark Police Department

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Chairman, New Jersey State Parole Board

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Chief, Appellate Division  
Division of Criminal Justice

R. Bruce Phillips  
New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police  
Holmdel Police Department

Donna Pincavage  
Executive Director  
Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect

James T. Plousis  
President, Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey  
Cape May County Sheriff

Stephen G. Raymond  
Burlington County Prosecutor

Michael J. Renahan  
Police Management Specialist  
Division of Criminal Justice

Raymond D. Saunders  
Advisor, New Jersey Juvenile Officers' Association  
Middle Township Police Department

Herbert H. Tate, Jr.  
Essex County Prosecutor

Eileen Verbeke  
President, Ocean/Monmouth County Chapter  
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

Charles Waldron  
Chief, Litigation Section  
Division of Criminal Justice

Kenneth W. Welch  
Chairman, Violent Crimes Compensation Board

Jean B. Wright  
Governing Member, Mercer Area Chapter  
New Jersey Regional Coordinator  
The Compassionate Friends

## **Special Needs Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

John Stamler  
Union County Prosecutor

### **Members**

Janet Barton  
Raritan Valley Chapter Leader  
Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)

Lewis I. Becker  
State Investigator  
Division of Criminal Justice

Sandra Freeman, Coordinator  
Rape Care Program  
Department of Health

David C. Herzenberg  
Executive Director  
Senior Legal Resource Center, Inc.

Phyllis Moon  
Domestic Violence Prevention Program  
Division on Women

Ruth Morelli  
Director of Policy and Planning  
Violent Crimes Compensation Board

Mary Pillarella  
Bergen County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Donna Pincavage  
Executive Director  
Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect

Jonathan Tchack  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Essex County

Eileen Verbeke  
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

Jean B. Wright  
Governing Member, Mercer Area Chapter  
New Jersey Regional Coordinator  
The Compassionate Friends

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## **Release Notification Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Louis Nickolopoulos, Chairman  
State Parole Board

### **Members**

Janet Barton  
Raritan Valley Chapter Leader  
Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)

Jerome Buck  
Gloucester County Jail Warden  
President, New Jersey Jail Warden's Association

Marilyn Clark  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Bergen County

Donald Dowches  
State Parole Board

Michael Logsdon  
Undersheriff  
Cape May County Sheriff's Department

John P. McCarthy, Jr.  
Assistant Director, Criminal Practice  
Administrative Office of the Courts

Sandra McGowan  
Morris County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Phyllis Moon  
Domestic Violence Prevention Program  
Division on Women

Greg Shivers  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Burlington County

## **Medical Evidence Exam Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Marilyn Clark  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Bergen County

### **Members**

Angela Chimento  
Victim Representative

Sandra Freeman, Coordinator  
Rape Care Program  
Department of Health

Mary Effie Gunther-Raney  
Mercer County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Fern Leventhal  
Director of Membership Services  
New Jersey Hospital Association

Karen Pappas  
State Law Enforcement Planning Agency

R. Bruce Phillips  
New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police  
Holmdel Police Department

Donna Pincavage  
Executive Director  
Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect

Stephen G. Raymond  
Burlington County Prosecutor

Amy Sneider  
Passaic County Women's Center

Kenneth Welch, Chairman  
Violent Crimes Compensation Board

## **Training Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Pamela Hamilton  
Training Coordinator  
Division of Criminal Justice

### **Members**

Manford G. Ayers, President  
College and University Safety Association  
Director of Public Safety  
Drew University

William A. Beachell  
Chief  
Montgomery Township Police Department

Alvin Beveridge  
Chief, Police Services  
Division of Criminal Justice

Joseph Kirchhofer  
Sergeant  
New Jersey State Police Training Academy

Kenneth Mallette  
Trooper  
New Jersey State Police Training Academy

Colonel Clinton L. Pagano  
Superintendent  
Division of State Police

Michael J. Renahan  
Police Management Specialist  
Division of Criminal Justice

Jean B. Wright  
Governing Member, Mercer Area Chapter  
New Jersey Regional Coordinator  
The Compassionate Friends

## **Implementation Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Pamela Fisher, Chief  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Division of Criminal Justice

### **Members**

Leo Culloo  
Chief, Police Standards  
Division of Criminal Justice

James N. Hogan  
Chief  
Franklin Township Police Department

Erica Kaufman  
Director of Public Information  
Violent Crimes Compensation Board

James F. Mulvihill  
Assistant Attorney General  
Division of Criminal Justice

Anne C. Paskow  
Chief, Appellate Section  
Division of Criminal Justice

Michael J. Renahan  
Police Management Specialist  
Division of Criminal Justice

Robert Robbins  
New Jersey State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police  
Lindenwold Police Department

Greg Shivers  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Burlington County

## **Juvenile Court Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Raymond Saunders, Advisor  
New Jersey Juvenile Officers' Association  
Middle Township Police Department

### **Members**

Barbara Carter  
Gloucester County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Marilyn Clark  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Bergen County

Walter Craig  
Cape May County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Pamela Gaines  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Gloucester County

M. Alline Haenssler  
Justice for Murder Victims (JMV)

Diane M. Hellauer  
Assistant Prosecutor  
Camden County

William and Connie Loschiavo  
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

## **Property Return Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Robert Robbins  
Lindenwold Police Department  
First Vice President  
New Jersey State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police

### **Members**

Olivia Belfatto-Crisp  
Deputy Attorney General  
Division of Criminal Justice

Thomas Darmody  
Chief  
Lacey Township Police Department

James Keating  
Deputy Attorney General  
Division of Criminal Justice

Colonel Clinton L. Pagano  
Superintendent  
Division of State Police

Charles Waldron  
Chief, Litigation Section  
Division of Criminal Justice

## **Municipal Court Subcommittee**

### **Chairperson**

Alvin G. Shpeen  
Police Bureau Counsel  
Division of Criminal Justice

### **Members**

John Kaye  
Monmouth County Prosecutor

John McMahon  
Essex County Victim-Witness Coordinator

Phyllis Moon  
Domestic Violence Prevention Program  
Division on Women

Ira Scheff  
Chief, Municipal Court Operations  
Administrative Office of the Courts

Eileen Verbeke  
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

## Offices of Victim-Witness Advocacy

### ATLANTIC COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office  
19th Avenue at Rt. #40  
Vocational School Complex  
Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330  
(609) 645-5808

### BERGEN COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Bergen County Prosecutor's Office  
215 Court House  
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601  
(201) 646-2057  
(201) 646-2964

### BURLINGTON COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Burlington County Prosecutor's Office  
49 Rancocas Road  
Mt. Holly, New Jersey 08060  
(609) 265-5048

### CAMDEN COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Camden County Prosecutor's Office  
518 Market Street, Parkade Building  
Camden, New Jersey 08101  
(609) 757-8400

### CAPE MAY COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Cape May County Prosecutor's Office  
Main Street  
Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210  
(609) 465-1163

### CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Cumberland County Prosecutor's Office  
43 Fayette Street, CN 01  
Bridgeton, New Jersey 08302  
(609) 451-8000, ext. 276

### ESSEX COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Essex County Prosecutor's Office  
New Courts Building  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
(201) 621-4707

### GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office  
Court House Annex  
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096  
(609) 853-3701  
(609) 853-3694

### HUDSON COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Hudson County Prosecutor's Office  
Administration Building  
595 Newark Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306  
(201) 795-6508

### HUNTERDON COUNTY

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office  
P.O. Box 756  
Flemington, New Jersey 08822  
(201) 788-1403

**MERCER COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Mercer County Prosecutor's Office  
P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton, New Jersey 08650  
(609) 989-6428  
(609) 989-6274

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office  
P.O. Box 71, JFK Square  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903  
(201) 745-3394

**MONMOUTH COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office  
P.O. Box 1261, Court House  
Freehold, New Jersey 07728-1261  
(201) 431-6459

**MORRIS COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Morris County Prosecutor's Office  
Court House  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960  
(201) 285-6200

**OCEAN COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Ocean County Prosecutor's Office  
CN 2191, Court House  
Toms River, New Jersey 08754  
(201) 929-2027

**PASSAIC COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office  
77 Hamilton Street  
Paterson, New Jersey 07505  
(201) 881-4887

**SALEM COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Salem County Prosecutor's Office  
Court House  
Salem, New Jersey 08079  
(609) 935-7510

**SOMERSET COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Somerset County Prosecutor's Office  
Administration Building  
P.O. Box 3000  
Somerville, New Jersey 08876  
(201) 231-7100

**SUSSEX COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Sussex County Prosecutor's Office  
4 High Street  
Newton, New Jersey 07860  
(201) 383-1570

**UNION COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Union County Prosecutor's Office  
Administration Building  
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207  
(201) 527-4595

**WARREN COUNTY**

Victim-Witness Coordinator  
Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Warren County Prosecutor's Office  
Court House  
Belvidere, New Jersey 07823  
(201) 475-2663

**VIOLENT CRIMES  
COMPENSATION BOARD**

60 Park Place  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
(201) 648-2107

**Victim-Witness Hotline**  
(800) 242-0804

**STATE OFFICE OF VICTIM-WITNESS ADVOCACY**

Chief, State Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy  
Division of Criminal Justice  
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street, CN-085  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
(609) 984-4996