## VICTIM RESOURCES

## **Montana Department of Corrections**

Victim programs: 1-888-223-6332

Restitution collection: 1-800-801-3478

Board of Pardons and Parole: (406) 846-1404

Montana State Prison (men): (406) 846-1320 ext. 2201

Montana Women's Prison: (406) 247-5102

## **Montana Department of Justice**

Office of Victim Services: (406) 444-1907

Crime Victim Compensation Program: 1-800-498-6455

Sexual or Violent Offender Registry: https://doj.mt.gov/svor/

#### **IMPORTANT!**

#### DO YOU HAVE A NEW PHONE NUMBER OR ADDRESS?

It is your responsibility to change your VINE and DOC registrations if you obtain a new phone number, email or mailing address. Otherwise we cannot notify you about the offender!

## MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (DOC) VICTIM PROGRAMS MANAGER Toll free (888) 223-6332

- VICTIM REGISTRATION. VINE is anonymous and DOC does not know that you registered. We therefore encourage you to also register directly with us so we can contact you about offender placements and other decisions that might affect you. Register with DOC electronically at www.cor.mt.gov or call the victim programs manager to request a registration form. Your offender will not know that you registered with VINE or DOC.
- **RESTITUTION.** DOC collects restitution from adult felony offenders and disburses it to crime victims. If the sentencing judge ordered victim restitution but you have not received payments, call the DOC Collections Unit at (800) 801-3478.
- VICTIM IMPACT PANELS. DOC invites victims to visit the women's prison, boot camp, and prerelease centers to talk with offenders about the ripple effects of crime. This sharing helps victims heal and offenders to take responsibility for their crimes.
- VICTIM-OFFENDER DIALOGUE (VOD). DOC provides victims an opportunity to meet with their offenders face-to-face to discuss the crime in a safe setting. VOD is voluntary for offenders and occurs at the victim's request after extensive preparation with trained facilitators.
- OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY LETTERS. Offenders who accept responsibility for their crimes sometimes write apologies to their victims, which are screened and filed at DOC until those victims ask to receive them. Victims who register with DOC are notified by the program manager if a letter becomes available to them.

This project was supported by Grant Number 2011-VN-CX-0005 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the SMART Office, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.

# VICTIM INFORMATION & NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY



## VICTIMS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW

## Montana Department of Corrections VINE Service

Access to Current Offender Locations & Notification About Custody Status Changes

1-800-456-3076 Toll-free TTY 1-866-847-1298 www.vinelink.com

Montana Department of Corrections www.cor.mt.gov

## MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY

VINE is a free automated service that provides the current location and custody status of adult offenders under Department of Corrections (DOC) supervision. VINE tracks offenders in prisons and community placements such as prerelease, probation or parole. The information is available by phone or online 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

### **USING VINE**

Call **1-800-456-3076** or visit **www.vinelink.com** and follow the instructions to access offender location and custody information.

#### Registration

If the offender is under DOC supervision, you can register to receive VINE notifications.

If you register a phone number, you will need to create a four-digit personal identification number (PIN) that you will need when you receive notifications. Make sure your PIN is easy to remember.

#### Notification

You will be notified about the following offender events:

- Release from supervision
- Location or custody status change
- Escape or abscond
- Death while under supervision
- Parole hearings
- Sentence review hearings

When VINE calls, listen to the message, then enter your PIN followed by the pound (#) key when asked. Entering the PIN lets VINE know that you received the message and do not need repeated calls.

www.vinelink.com

- If you feel you are in danger, call 911 immediately.
- Since VINE calls automatically when an offender's custody status changes, you may get a call from VINE in the middle of the night.
- If you do not answer a notification call, VINE will leave a message and will continue calling back until you enter your PIN or until up to 48 hours have passed.
- Do not register a phone number that rings to a switchboard.
- VINE is confidential. The offender will not know you are registered with VINE.
- You can register multiple phone numbers and email addresses for notifications.
- If you forget your PIN, call the toll-free number and press zero. You will be transferred to a VINE operator who can help you reset your PIN or cancel notification.
- Operators are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist you.

Do not rely solely on VINE for your safety. If you feel that you may be at risk, take precautions as if the offender has already been released.

Write down the following information, tear off this panel, and keep in a safe place:

Offender name

Offender number

Your four-digit PIN

## **Montana Victim Rights**

If you are a victim of a felony crime in Montana, the law guarantees you the right to information about those responsible, starting with arrest and continuing until the offender serves his or her sentence.

You are entitled to participate in decisions that affect your safety and wellbeing, such as plea bargains or a suspect's release on bond. To exercise these rights, you must provide current contact information to law enforcement, the county attorney (prosecutor) and the Department of Corrections (DOC).

You are responsible for notifying these agencies if you change your address or phone number. For more information about victim rights, visit the DOC website at www.cor.mt.gov/victims/ or call the victim programs manager at (888) 223-6332.

Follow the instructions on this brochure to register anoymously with VINE, but also register directly with the DOC electronically at www.cor.mt.gov or call (888) 223-6332 to request a mail-in registration form.





## 1-800-456-3076 www.vinelink.com