

National SAVIN

(Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification)

Training and Technical Assistance Project

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SPONSORED BY:
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
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Learning Objectives

- Identify the importance of information and notification to crime victims and survivors
- Describe how SAVIN works
- Identify the key benefits of SAVIN for community and institutional corrections
- Describe the key components of the National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project

ICEBREAKER



WHY

is it important for
crime victims and survivors
to be notified about
the status of their *case*,
and their *alleged or convicted offender*?

The Importance of Victim Information and Notification

- Victim empowerment and autonomy
- Contributes to informed decision-making
- Proactively engages victims in justice and corrections processes
- Notification is the “threshold right” that leads to information about additional victims’ rights, and victim services

Victims Speak Out: Help, Hope and Healing

THE POWER OF THE PERSONAL STORY



National SAVIN Training and Technical
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Victim Information & Notification

WHY IT MATTERS.....

Lisa Bianco

Murdered in 1987
Elkhart, Indiana



Mary Byron

Murdered in 1993
Louisville, Kentucky



Victims Speak Out: Help, Hope and Healing

NOTIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION



National SAVIN Training and Technical
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WHO

Can Access SAVIN Services?

Virtually ANYONE

can access SAVIN services:

- Crime victims and survivors, their family and friends
- Law enforcement and justice professionals
- Concerned citizens
- The news media

SAVIN Services Are....

- Free.
- Anonymous and confidential – a victim's alleged or convicted offender will *not* know that the victim (or anyone else) has registered for SAVIN services.
- Available 24-hours-a-day, 365 days a year.

SAVIN Services (cont.)

- In most states, SAVIN services are available in English and Spanish. Some jurisdictions also provide access to additional translation services.
- In most states, SAVIN information can be accessed by telephone (including TTY and texting/SMS), the Internet (via SAVIN websites), email alerts, and letter – it is the victim's choice as to how he or she wishes to be notified.
- Crime victims and survivors are *not* limited to one notification option, and may sign up for any or all, as needed.

How SAVIN Works

- Victims are provided with information about how to register for SAVIN:
 - Including self-selection of a 4-digit PIN
- When a notification is triggered, SAVIN contacts the victim with information about the status of the offender
- Victim contact continues until the 4-digit PIN is entered to confirm victim receipt of notification

How SAVIN Works (*cont.*)

- SAVIN communicates with jail and prison booking systems in near real-time:
 - Jails every 15 minutes
 - Corrections/prisons every 30 minutes



How SAVIN Works (*cont.*)

- SAVIN operators are available to provide assistance to SAVIN users 24//7/365
- For each SAVIN state, there is a database of:
 - State's victims' rights laws.
 - Community- and system-based victim assistance programs for information/referral
- National information and referral resources are also available

SAVIN Administrative Tools

- VINEWatch website
- SAVIN user data provided by the SAVIN vendor
- BJA-sponsored National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project

■ Contracted Statewide VINE

■ VINE in some counties

PUERTO RICO

SAVIN User Data

NUMBER OF:

- Inbound calls
- Outbound calls
- Email, snail mail, and SMS contacts
- Victim/survivor requests for referrals

SAVIN Statistics 2009

- Delivered more than 14.1 million notifications
- Tracks *overall more than 80 percent* of the Nation's offender population
- Tracks *more than 90 percent* of the nation's jail population (some states/counties still in implementation phase)
- Fielded more than 3.8 million incoming calls
- Received 1.16 new registrations
- Total calls to and from the system in 2009 – *17.9 million*

Benefits of SAVIN for Community and Institutional Corrections

- SAVIN can help ensure compliance with victims' key statutory and/or constitutional rights to information and notification which, in many states, is a designated responsibility of community corrections.
- In most jurisdictions, SAVIN enhances the corrections management information system by providing accurate, timely updates of inmates' custody and/or supervision data.
- SAVIN data are collected from correctional institutions every 30 minutes to ensure timely updates to inmates' information.

Benefits of SAVIN for Community and Institutional Corrections/2

- If an inmate in jail or a correctional facility escapes, a notification is made to the victim. And once an inmate is captured and rebooked into custody, the victim is notified.
- Correctional personnel who, in the past, have been assigned to handle telephone calls and in-person inquiries about the status of offenders can simply provide information about SAVIN and then dedicate their time to other tasks.
- SAVIN saves time and human resources, increasing the capacity of corrections-based victim assistance programs to focus on providing other important victim services.


Benefits of SAVIN for Community and Institutional Corrections/3

- SAVIN helps promote a more “seamless” implementation of victims’ rights to notification from courts and sentencing, to institutional and community corrections.
- SAVIN services promote collaboration among law enforcement, courts, corrections and victim assistance agencies to more effectively work together in implementing SAVIN services.
- SAVIN is an excellent community relations tool to show that institutional and community corrections agencies are engaged in promoting victim and community safety.

In 2010, 14 States Offer Specific Community Corrections Notification

FOR EXAMPLE:

- AK: Discharge from probation/parole
- FL: Community supervision notification
- MT: “Abscond from probation/parole” and “return” notifications

A faint, stylized image of a balance scale is visible in the background, centered behind the title text. The scale has two pans hanging from a horizontal beam, which is supported by a vertical pillar. The entire image has a dark blue gradient background.

National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project

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National SAVIN T/TA Project Partners



National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project

National SAVIN T/TA Project Goal

Our goal is to provide training and technical assistance to assist state SAVIN grantees in the implementation, enhancement, and administration of their statewide victim notification systems.

Project Activities Will Create:

- Virtual Library
- SAVIN Technical Assistance Request Response System (STARRS)
- Training and Education Program
- Program Support and Development

Virtual Library

- Field-driven
- Evidence-based and promising practices in SAVIN:
 - Policy and protocols
 - Governance
 - Victim/survivor outreach
 - Public awareness
 - Data collection and program evaluation

PROMOTING SAVIN PARTNERSHIPS

SAVIN Technical Assistance Request Response System (STARRS)

TRI-LEVEL TRIAGE SYSTEM

1. Less intensive problem-solving
2. Technical assistance by and referrals to subject matter experts and other resource providers
3. Highly intensive technical assistance, i.e., site visits, mentoring, and direct training

Training and Education Program

- National training workshop with 100 SAVIN program administrators and staff
- Training seminars for allied national organizations
- Development of model educational curriculum
- Ongoing communications with SAVIN Administrators

Program Support and Development

- Guidelines for program evaluation
- Mentoring program
- Engage national and Federal partners
- Consideration of national “NAVIN” program with single online access point, and single national toll-free telephone number
 - Per the intent of the U.S. Congress

YOUR Role in Promoting SAVIN

SAVIN services
can only be effective if
crime victims and survivors
(and other stakeholders)
are aware of them!

YOUR

Role in Promoting SAVIN (*cont.*)

- Knowledge of your state's SAVIN program
- Collaborating with community- and system-based victim services
- Statewide promotion of SAVIN through:
 - Victim outreach
 - Public awareness campaign
 - With attention to unserved and underserved victim/survivor populations
 - Professional training and education

Professional Training and Education

- Clearly defined “benefits” of SAVIN for your colleagues
- National, state and local training venues
- Training modules that can be easily adapted to various audiences
- Ongoing support can be provided by the National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project

Questions and Answers



For More Information.....

PLEASE CONTACT:

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