

# Help Starts Here.

## Information on Victim Notification

### What is victim notification?

When information is provided to victims about the status of the accused (person charged with the crime) or offender (person convicted of the crime). The Victim Safety Unit provides information to victims when the accused or offender is supervised by B.C. Corrections. Some information may also be provided to persons protected by a *Family Relations Act* restraining order.

### Who should register with the Victim Safety Unit?

- Victims of crime, and
- persons protected by a *Family Relations Act* restraining order who have significant safety concerns

who want ongoing notification about the status of an adult accused/offender being supervised by B.C. Corrections.

### When should I register?

You can register at any time, but it is best to do so as soon as B.C. Corrections is involved. For example, you can register if the accused is on bail and required to report to a bail supervisor, or if the accused is held in jail pending trial. **You don't have to wait for a conviction.** B.C. Corrections supervises adults in the community (bail, probation) and in custody (jail).

### Do I have to register?

If you want to receive ongoing notification, you must register with the Victim Safety Unit. Otherwise, you will not receive automatic updates (except in cases of domestic violence). You do not have to be registered to phone the Victim Safety Unit and ask for specific information.

### What information will I receive if I register?

That depends on whether you are a victim of crime or you are protected by a *Family Relations Act* restraining order. Different factors determine what information can be provided and when. The Victim Safety Unit will review this with you. The *Victims of Crime Act* sets out what information may be provided to victims, such as:

- whether the accused or offender is in jail
- when the accused or offender may get out of jail
- the name and location of the offender's probation officer
- whether the accused or offender is in the community and what conditions the accused or offender has to follow

Persons protected by a *Family Relations Act* restraining order may receive information about when the offender will be released from jail.

### How will I be notified?

Notification may be provided by phone or mail, depending on your circumstances and preferences. If you wish, you may be notified through a third party such as a victim service worker.

### What about cases of domestic violence?

B.C. Corrections has a mandate to provide notification to victims of domestic violence. However, victims may still want to register with the Victim Safety Unit.

### What if the offender is in federal custody (sentence of two years or more)?

Call the National Parole Board, toll free at 1-888-999-8828.

### How do I register with the Victim Safety Unit?

Complete the application form on page two of this information sheet (also available online). Mail or fax the form to the Victim Safety Unit to the number provided on the application form. You can get help filling out the form through your local victim services or the Victim Safety Unit. You can also call the Victim Safety Unit to register by phone.

### Questions? Registration? Contact the Victim Safety Unit

Call (604) 660-0316 in the Lower Mainland, or toll free 1-877-315-8822

E-mail [vsusg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:vsusg@gov.bc.ca)





# Victim Safety Unit Notification Application Form

Please complete this form if you are a victim of crime/protected party on a protection order (e.g. bail order, probation order, peace bond or Family Restraining Order). You can request information and register for ongoing notification regarding an accused/ offender who is being supervised by B.C. Corrections, either in custody (jail) or community (e.g. bail, probation).

Name: I,

am requesting information available to me as a victim of crime / protected party.

- I am the victim / protected party
- I am requesting information on behalf of the victim / protected party

My relationship to the victim is: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City:  Postal Code:

Phone:

### CASE INFORMATION

Name of Victim / Protected Party (if different from above):

Victim Date of Birth:

Court File #:   Criminal  Family

Court Location:

Name of Accused / Offender / Defendant:

Offender Date of Birth:

If this offender applies for parole or is transferred to federal custody, you must also register with the National Parole Board (NPB) / Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) to continue to receive notification.

Tick the box below and the Victim Safety Unit will forward this signed and completed form to NPB/ CSC for federal registration.

- If this offender applies for parole or is transferred to federal custody, I also want to register with NPB / CSC for victim notification and I authorize the Victim Safety Unit to forward this form to NPB / CSC.

If this offender is currently under federal jurisdiction, you may contact NPB / CSC directly at 1-888-999-8828 or visit their website: [http://www.npb-cnrc.gc.ca/victims/victims\\_e.htm](http://www.npb-cnrc.gc.ca/victims/victims_e.htm)

**Mail or fax the completed registration form to:  
Victim Safety Unit**

Victim Services & Crime Prevention Division  
Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General  
302-815 Hornby Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E6  
Fax: 604-660-0335

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victim / Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If you have any questions, please call the Victim Safety Unit at 604-660-0316 or 1-877-315-8822