PA SAVIN FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

PA SAVIN (Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification) provides crime victims, criminal justice professionals, and other concerned citizens with the ability to confirm an offender's incarceration status. It also provides free, prompt and anonymous notifications regarding any changes in that status, including release, transfer or escape. PA SAVIN is in use at all 62 county prisons, the PA Department of Corrections and the PA Board of Probation and Parole.

PA SAVIN is used by law enforcement officers to:

- monitor gang activity by determining whether certain offenders are in or out of jail
- verify the custody status and location of an inmate when the officer is required to testify or is otherwise involved in the offender's prosecution
- * check on the custody status of inmates in order to serve warrants
- supervise the status of serial offenders in their communities
- ❖ keep tabs on offenders who have threatened them or their loved ones

PA SAVIN release notifications go out in near-real time, as soon as the inmate is released - 24 hours per day, 365 days per year including weekends and holidays. Transfer notifications go out on an 8 hour delay to ensure the safety of the transporting officers, the public and the inmate. Some types of notifications may be suppressed during the overnight hours if safety is not an issue – i.e. Return To Custody notifications.

Registration is done by phone or the Internet. Phone registrations can be done at any time using an automated system or using the assistance of a live operator. The registrant will receive notifications by phone, e-mail or both, depending on what he or she requests.

Law enforcement officers are often a crime victim's first contact with the criminal justice process; therefore it is important for them to ensure that victims are informed about PA SAVIN. Since offenders can be released within days or even within hours of an arrest, it is essential for victims of high-risk offenders to register as soon as the offender is booked into the jail's computer system. Registered victims and officers can be notified within 15 minutes of an inmate's release on bond.

Brochures, posters and tear-off pads can be ordered by contacting the Program Coordinator listed below. The Coordinator will also come out to your station or barracks when requested to do free informational sessions regarding PA SAVIN.

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PA SAVIN can be accessed by:

- calling 1-866-9PA-SAVIN (1-866-972-7284)
- visiting <u>www.pacrimevictims.state.pa.us</u> which provides comprehensive information about PA SAVIN and other services for victims of crime
- visiting <u>www.vinelink.com</u> which is the website for the general public to use for searches and registrations

For more information about PA SAVIN contact:

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