## Plea Agreement/Sentencing

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes:

§ 54-91c, the state's attorney shall notify the victim of such crime of the date, time and place of the original sentencing hearing or any judicial proceeding concerning the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement, provided the victim has informed such state's attorney that the victim wishes to make or submit a statement and has complied with a request from the state's attorney to submit a stamped, self-addressed postcard for the purpose of such notification.

Prior to the imposition of sentence upon a defendant originally charged with assault a peace officer, and prior to the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement, the state's attorney shall personally notify the peace officer who was the victim of such crime of the date, time and place of the original sentencing hearing or any judicial proceeding concerning the acceptance of a plea agreement.

§ 54-230, the Office of Victim Services shall notify **any victim who has requested notification** whenever a person files an application with the court to be exempted from the sex offender registration requirements, requests an order restricting the dissemination of the registration information or removing such restriction.

"I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it's for or against." -Malcolm X



# **NOTIFICATION**

Crime victims have a State Constitutional right to notification of court proceedings.



#### Office of The Victim Advocate

505 Hudson Street, 5th Floor Hartford, CT, 06106 860-550-6632 Toll Free 1-888-771-3126 Fax: 860-560-7065 www.ct.gov/ova





#### **OPT-IN SYSTEM**

Connecticut crime victims must "optin" to the criminal justice system to receive notification of certain court proceedings.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes:

§ 54-85g, each superior court judge shall make an advisement of crime victims rights at the opening of court each day.

§ 18-81e, the Commissioner of Correction shall notify any victim of the crime for which a person is incarcerated of such person's release, if such victim has requested notification and provided current contact information.

## Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System (SAVIN)

Provides confidential notification in English, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish.

§ 54-222a, whenever a peace officer determines that a crime has been committed, such officer shall present a card to the crime victim informing the crime victim of services available and the rights of crimes victims in this state.

§ 51-286d, in any case involving the death of a person, the state's attorney shall identify and notify a member of the immediate family of the victim of the arraignment of the person accused of the offense.

§ 51-286e, the state's attorney shall notify any victim of the offense of any judicial proceedings relating to the victim's case, if such victim has requested notification and provided current contact information.

§ 53a-29, the Court Support Services Division shall establish within its policy and procedures a requirement that any victim be notified whenever a person's sentence of probation may be terminated early.

§ 53a-32, a probation officer shall notify an victim of the offense when such probation officer seeks a warrant for violation of probation, if the victim has provided current contact information.

§ 54-228, any victim of crime who desires to be notified whever an inmate makes an application to the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Department of Correction, sentencing court or judge or review division or whenever an inmate is scheduled to be released from a correctional facility, may complete an application with the Office of Victim Services or the Victim Services Unit within the Department of Correction to receive such notification.

### **Diversion/Pre-trial Programs**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes:

§ 17a-696, any defendant seeking suspension of prosecution and order for treatment of alcohol or drug dependency shall provide notice to any victim of the offense.

§ 46b-38c, the court shall notify any victim of a defendant's application for assignment to the family violence education program.

§ 54-56d, the state's attorney shall make a reasonable effort to notify any victim for which a defendant is charged of such defendant's failure to return to a treatment facility.

§ 54-56e, a defendant shall notify any victim of the offense of the defendant's application for the accelerated pretrial rehabilitation program.

# Not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect

§ 17a-596 & 17a-601, the Psychiatric Security Review Board shall notify any victim of the offense when the board has a hearing concerning an acquittee's discharge, conditional release, temporary leave or confinement, if the victim has requested such notification.

The Psychiatric Security Review Board shall provide, within 25 days, written notice of the board's decision to any victim of the offense.

\* This summary of legal rights is subject to the full text of the statutes. Victims are entitled to rights as set forth in the statutes. If you don't understand your legal rights, you may wish to contact the Office of The Victim Advocate.