



STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM
INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION

SAVIN

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month February 2013

SAVIN Resource Kit

SPONSORED BY:



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Overview of the Resource Kit

INTRODUCTION

Teen dating violence is one of the biggest challenges facing America's youth today. A nationwide survey published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2011 found that nearly one in 10 high school students report "begin hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend" in the 12 months prior to the survey.

February 2013 is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, during which SAVIN programs can promote their services directly to young victims of this crime and their families. In his 2012 proclamation to recognize this national observance, President Barack Obama said:

"In America, an alarming number of young people experience physical, sexual or emotional abuse as part of a controlling or violent dating relationship. The consequences of dating violence – spanning impaired development to physical harm – pose a threat to the health and well-being of teens across our Nation, and it is essential we come together to break the cycle of violence that burdens too many of our sons and daughters..."

I call upon all Americans to support efforts in their communities and schools, and in their own families, to empower young people to develop healthy relationships throughout their lives, and to engage in activities that prevent and respond to teen dating violence."

SAVIN programs are an important part of the activities that "respond to teen dating violence," and can help young victims be informed and involved in their cases, and promote their personal safety. SAVIN programs should consider the types of teen dating violence cases they can address, including:

- Cases where the alleged or convicted perpetrator is an adult and the victim is a juvenile teenager.
- Cases where a juvenile offender is remanded from the juvenile justice system to the criminal justice system.
- In states where SAVIN encompasses both the criminal and juvenile justice systems, all teen dating violence cases.

This Kit contains a variety of helpful resources to promote National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention (TDVAP) Month and, at the same time, generate awareness of the importance of SAVIN programs in promoting victim information, notification and safety.

NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PUBLIC AWARENESS

The Administration has made teen dating violence a priority, and our Federal government provides excellent resources about teen dating violence prevention and response:

- 1 IS 2 MANY, a program launched in 2012 by the White House to combat teen dating violence (this website features a video PSA with President Obama and sports leaders speaking out to boys and young men)
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/1is2many>
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), U.S. Department of Justice
<https://www.ncjrs.gov/teendatingviolence/relatedresources.html>
- Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice
<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/datingviolence.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teen_dating_violence.html

Additional national resources to help you promote this Month include:

- Love Is Respect
<http://www.loveisrespect.org/>
- STAYTeen.org
<http://www.stayteen.org/article/dating-violence-month>
- National Center for Victims of Crime Youth Initiative
<http://victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/youth-initiative>
- 2012 Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month website (your SAVIN Project team will notify you when the 2013 website is launched)
<http://www.teenDVmonth.org>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the Bureau of Justice Assistance within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, for providing leadership and support to the National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Project and to SAVIN programs nationwide.

We are also grateful to the Administration for its ongoing leadership that encourages the participation of all Americans in preventing and responding to teen dating violence.

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE KIT

As with previous SAVIN Resource Kits, the contents of this Resource Kit are generic, to be easily adapted to whatever a state's SAVIN program is called. Any time you see "SAVIN," please substitute the name of your state's program (if it is not "SAVIN"). Throughout this Resource Kit, any text that is featured in a **RED FONT** requires personalization to your state's SAVIN program.

All files provided are PDFs with fillable fields for customization. Using Acrobat, an end user can click on the field, add text and save the file as a new, custom PDF. You can access Adobe Reader and Players for free download at <http://www.adobe.com/downloads/>.

It is helpful to review this Kit in its entirety to be aware of the scope of its many resources. In addition, SAVIN programs can contact allied victim assistance programs – especially those that address youth violence – and schools to share ideas and resources about promoting National TDVAP Month, and encourage them to include SAVIN as part of their victim and public outreach activities to observe this Month.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND VICTIM/SURVIVOR OUTREACH

Because teenagers use social media as one of their primary forms of communications with friends and family, this Kit features comprehensive Social Media Tips that provide guidance in publicizing SAVIN through popular social media sites, such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. This section includes hyperlinks to websites geared toward teenagers in preventing dating violence and assisting its victims.

In addition, the Kit includes:

- *Sample public service announcements* – in a 60 second and 30 second format – and information about how to link to the White House's 1 IS 2 MANY 60 second video PSA about teen dating violence
- *A sample press release* that promotes both National TDVAP Month and SAVIN programs
- *A sample opinion/editorial column* that highlights the problem of teen dating violence, and offers SAVIN services as a solution to help its victims
- *Sample quotations* about teen dating violence and healthy relationships that can be used in all victim/survivor and public outreach activities
- *Statistics* about teen dating violence, including data from national surveys of teenagers
- *National information and referral resources*, including toll-free telephone numbers and websites for victims, survivors and those who assist them

CAMERA-READY ARTWORK

There are three buttons and a two-sided bookmark included in the camera-ready artwork in this Kit. All artwork can be personalized to a specific SAVIN program to promote National TDVAP Month within a state or jurisdiction.

RESOURCE KIT EVALUATION FORM

We value your feedback about this Resource Kit! Please take a few moments to complete the *National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Resource Kit Evaluation Form* (which is included as a separate attachment to the email with this Resource Kit) and return it to us. Your input will help your National SAVIN Project Team improve its efforts to help you promote SAVIN during victim-related commemorations throughout the year.



Social Media Tips

Any outreach today to teenage populations can strongly benefit from the use of social media.

Raising awareness of abuse and violence in teen dating relationships can be as simple as tweeting or posting an online message. Social media comprise the fastest growing methods of communication in the United States, especially among youth. Familiar websites like Facebook, YouTube and Twitter have opened new channels for young people to communicate instantaneously with each other, both publicly and privately, from almost any location and about any topic (including teen dating violence).

Here are some tips for using social media sites to raise awareness during National TDVAP Month:

TWITTER

Worldwide, there are 300 million “tweets” per day (Twitter.com). If you don’t already have a Twitter account to promote your SAVIN program, it’s free and easy to set up at www.twitter.com. Tweeting about National TDVAP Month is easy, and it’s important to remember to keep tweets under 140 characters. Here are some sample tweets to get you started:

- February is TDVAP Month. What does it mean? Find out more at <http://www.teenDVmonth.org> and ([your SAVIN website TDVAP Month page](#)).
- Teen dating violence is pervasive and harmful. Be an upstander who stands up, not a bystander who stands by.
- Help young people break the cycle of abuse in their relationships. <http://www.teenDVmonth.org>
- 1 in 3 teens experiences abuse in their relationships. Help break the cycle of violence. Visit the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline and website at www.loveisrespect.org.
- Dating violence hurts all of us. Learn more at <http://www.teenDVmonth.org>.
- During Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February, connect with crime victim information & notification through SAVIN at ([website URL](#)).

- Victims of teen dating violence can receive vital information & notification – it’s free and confidential. Visit ([website URL](#)).
- Teen dating violence information & notification – early, accurate & often. Check out Statewide Automated Victim Information & Notification, ([website URL](#)).
- Stalking is a crime, not an expression of love. Learn more at <http://www.teenDVmonth.org>.
- February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Get more info and help break the cycle! <http://www.teenDVmonth.org>

FACEBOOK

With more than one billion users, Facebook is and will continue to be the way that individuals communicate, inform, and influence others for the foreseeable future. To learn more about how to use Facebook to get important messages about SAVIN out, a good place to start is “Facebook Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations” published by DIOSA Communications at <http://www.diosacommunications.com/facebookbestpractices.htm>.

For National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, SAVIN programs can dedicate their Facebook status updates to educate people about dating violence. Here are some sample posts:

- February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. One in three young people experiences abuse in their relationships. You can help raise awareness today – visit <http://www.teenDVmonth.org> for more information!
- Love has many definitions, but abuse isn’t one of them. Observe National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month in February and help young people across the country have safe and healthy relationships. Visit <http://teenDV.org> for more information.
- Victims of teen dating violence can receive vital information & notification – it’s free and confidential. Learn more about Statewide Automated Victim Information & Notification at ([web URL](#)).

- Did you know that one in three teens experience dating violence? February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Learn how you can help at www.loveisrespect.org.
- We all associate February with Valentine's Day and visions of love, flowers and chocolates. But did you know that February is also National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, and that one in three teens experiences violence in a dating relationship? Victims of teen dating violence have the right to information and notification; learn more about Statewide Automated Victim Information & Notification at <http://www.savinonline.org> and (state SAVIN web URL).

YOUTUBE

YouTube is among the most popular social media venues for public awareness and victim/survivor outreach. A number of teen dating violence videos are available at <http://www.YouTube.com>. You can easily provide a hyperlink to these videos through your Facebook or SAVIN website.

- Teen Dating Violence (Part 1)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ11945KwZc>
Teen Dating Violence (Part 2)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=074i9C-6LoA>
This initiative sponsored by El Paso, TX county officials aims to reduce domestic violence and teen dating violence.
- Teen Dating Abuse Survivors
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxoDEns7wIg>
Break The Cycle interviews survivors of abuse. Listen to their stories, get the facts and find out how you can help stop teen dating violence.
- Causing Pain: Real Stories of Dating Abuse and Violence
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9Ctwk8R470>
This 2006 Emmy-nominated film about teen dating abuse and violence shows real teens telling their stories of dating abuse and violence. The film describes how dating abuse and violence starts, how it progresses, how the abuser acts, and how to recognize it.
- The four minute SAVIN public awareness video, which features victims/survivors, advocates and justice professionals talking about the value of SAVIN services, can be accessed at <http://savinonline.org/savin-public-awareness-video/>.



Sample Public Service Announcements

60 SECONDS

In 2012, the White House launched its “1 IS 2 MANY” campaign to combat teen dating violence. This initiative includes a 60 second video PSA featuring President Obama, Vice-President Biden and numerous sports leaders speaking out to young men about teen dating violence. In February 2013, SAVIN programs can provide a hyperlink from their websites to this White House program, and encourage people to join and promote the “1 IS 2 MANY” campaign.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/1is2many>

30 SECONDS

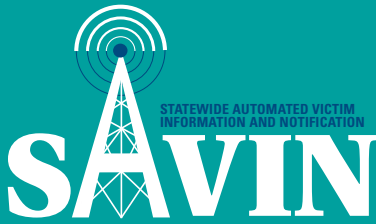
Teen dating violence is among the most prevalent crimes of violence affecting our youth. In a nationwide survey, nearly one in ten high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey. Yet many people do not know this problem exists.

Victims of teen dating violence, like all crime victims in (state), have the right to information about their alleged or convicted offender. Information is critical to help victims of teen dating violence regain a sense of control in their lives, and help them plan for their safety and for their future. Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification, or SAVIN, is a valuable public service that automatically informs registered victims of an offender’s status, including release from jail or prison. SAVIN services are free, confidential and available 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year.

During National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month this February, let’s raise awareness about this problem affecting our youth, and remember that victims of teen dating violence in (community/state) have the right to information and notification – early, accurate and often. Call (area code/telephone number) or visit (web URL) online for more information or to register for SAVIN services.

15 SECONDS

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. If you or someone you know is a victim of teen dating violence, you have the right to information about the status of your alleged or convicted offender. In (state), Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification, or SAVIN, is a free, 24-hours-a-day public service that automatically informs registered victims of an offender’s status, including release from jail or prison. For more information about (state) SAVIN services, call (area code/telephone number) or visit (web URL).



Sample Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

(DATE)

CONTACT:

Name/Agency

(A/C) Telephone

Email address

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE: A NATIONAL PROBLEM THAT REQUIRES A NATIONAL RESPONSE

(City/State) --- February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. During this month, it's important to raise awareness about a problem that, according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) survey, affects almost ten percent of high school students nationwide.

Abuse in dating relationships can be bewildering and frightening at any age. But for teenagers, this crime is even more difficult. Teens often fail to recognize abuse, especially emotional abuse, because they are inexperienced with dating and may have misperceptions about what's involved in "love." Young Americans need to be aware that possessiveness and controlling behavior are warning signals, not expressions of love; and that physical abuse may involve pushing, slapping, hitting, pulling hair, threatening with a weapon, and sexual assault including rape.

Dating violence is a crime. Victims of dating violence, like all crime victims, have the right to stay informed about key activities and events related to their cases and offenders. In (state), Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification or SAVIN, is a free, confidential public service that is available 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year. SAVIN automatically informs registered victims of an offender's release from jail or prison (you can adapt and/or expand this sentence to describe the key services provided by your SAVIN program, including notification to dating violence victims when protective orders are served).

It's easy to register for SAVIN services to receive information about offenders' status – information that is provided early, accurate and often. This critical information can help dating violence victims make informed decisions, and plan for their personal safety and security.

During Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month in February and throughout the year, let's remember that victims in (state) have the right to information and notification. Call SAVIN at (area code/telephone number) for more information or to register for notification, or visit our SAVIN website at (SAVIN web URL).

###

Type this press release double-spaced prior to disseminating it to the media.



Sample Opinion/ Editorial Column

In February, as our thoughts turn to Valentine's Day and showing our love and respect to people close to us, let's also remember that February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Love and respect are important components of any dating relationships yet, for some teens, these attributes are absent from their lives and concepts of "love."

The facts are clear: in a nationwide survey of high school students published in 2011 by the Centers for Disease Control, nearly one in ten students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey.

It's time to get the word out that *dating violence is a crime*. If you are a teenager or have a teenager in your life and are wondering how you can help, here are some simple suggestions:

- Communicate like a teenager! Use social media tools to raise awareness about the prevalence of teen dating violence and resources for prevention and response (for example, <http://www.loveisrespect.org/>).
- If you have a Facebook page, dedicate your Facebook status updates to educating your friends and family about dating violence.
- Use Twitter to send brief alerts about teen dating violence to your family and friends
- If you are the parent of an adolescent or teen, take your child out, away from siblings and distractions and let them know that you can be a supportive and non-judgmental listener.
- Learn the warning signs from <http://www.loveisrespect.org/> and stay alert and aware.

Victims of dating violence, like all crime victims, have the right to information and services. In situations where an alleged abuser has been arrested, prosecuted and/or convicted, it is important that victims stay informed about the status of their cases and their alleged and convicted offenders. Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) programs combine victims' rights to information and notification with related victim assistance services through innovative technology that tracks case and offender status. These programs provide vital information that can help a dating violence victim stay *informed, involved* and *safer*.

Nearly every state has a SAVIN program, including ([your state](#)), which nationwide tracks more than 80 percent of offenders. Some SAVIN programs include notification when protection from abuse (PFA) orders have been served and when they are going to expire, providing another important layer of protection to victims of dating violence and their families. ([Describe the key services of your SAVIN program here](#))

This February, as we take the time to raise awareness about dating violence, let's get the word out about SAVIN. It's a free, confidential service that can provide dating violence victims with vital information to help them stay safe. For more information about SAVIN services in ([your state](#)), visit ([web URL](#)).



Sample Quotations

DATING AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

“Domestic violence does not only happen to adults. Forty percent of girls age 14 to 17 report knowing someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend, and approximately one in five female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.” -*U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)*

“Domestic violence causes far more pain than the visible marks of bruises and scars. It is devastating to be abused by someone that you love and think loves you in return.” -*U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)*

“There is a subconscious way of taking violence as a way of expression, as a normality, and it has a lot of effects in the youth in the way they absorb education and what they hope to get out of life.” -*Salma Hayek, Spokesperson, Avon Speak Out Against Domestic Violence Program*

DATING RELATIONSHIPS

“Freedom and love go together. Love is not a reaction. If I love you because you love me, that is mere trade, a thing to be bought in the market; it is not love. To love is not to ask anything in return, not even to feel that you are giving something – and it is only such love that can know freedom.” -*Jiddu Krishnamurti*

“A loving relationship is one in which the loved one is free to be himself – to laugh with me, but never at me; to cry with me, but never because of me; to love life, to love himself, to love being loved. Such a relationship is based upon freedom and can never grow in a jealous heart.” -*Leo F. Buscaglia*

“Don’t smother each other. No one can grow in the shade.” -*Leo F. Buscaglia*

“So often the end of a love affair is death by a thousand cuts, so often its survival is life by a thousand stitches.” -*Robert Brault*

INNER STRENGTH AND SURVIVAL

“Things don’t go wrong and break your heart so you can become bitter and give up. They happen to break you down and build you up so you can be all that you were intended to be.” - *Charles Jones*

“The first step toward success is taken when you refuse to be a captive of the environment in which you first find yourself.” -*Mark Caine*

“Real confidence comes from knowing and accepting yourself – your strengths and your limitations – in contrast to depending on affirmation from others.” -*Judith Bardwick*

“If you have no confidence in self, you are twice defeated in the race of life. With confidence, you have won even before you have started.” -*Marcus Garvey*

“Life is too short to waste your time doing something that will lead to nothing. Find out what it is you’re all about; know your dreams, and live them!” -*Taylor Flanagan*



Dating Violence Statistics

- In a nationwide survey, 9.4 percent of high school students report being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey. (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2011*).
- About one in five women and nearly one in seven men who ever experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of partner violence between 11 and 17 years of age (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 2010*).
- Nearly one in ten 15-year-old girls disclosed experiencing physical dating violence and one in four disclosed experiencing psychological abuse (*Hebert, Lavoie, Vitaro, McDuff, & Tremblay, 2008*).
- A small study of middle school Latino youth ages 11 to 13 years old found that 14 percent of girls and 13 percent of boys disclosed experiencing physical dating violence in the past year (*Yan, Howard, Beck, Shattuck, Hallmark-Kerr, 2010*).
- In a 2009 survey of parents, three in four parents say they have had a conversation with their teen about what it means to be in a healthy relationship – but 74 percent of sons and 66 percent of daughters said they have not had a conversation about dating abuse with a parent in the past year (*Teenage Research Unlimited, 2009*).
- Of the teens in abusive relationships, fewer than one in three (32 percent) confide in their parents about their abusive relationship (*Teenage Research Unlimited, 2009*).
- In a survey of 1,430 7th-grade students from diverse geographical jurisdictions:
 - » More than one in three surveyed reported being a victim of psychological dating violence.
 - » Nearly one in six (15%) students surveyed report being a victim of physical dating violence in the last six months.
 - » Nearly one in three (31%) students surveyed report being a victim of electronic dating aggression in the last six months.
 - » More than one in three (37%) students surveyed reported having witnessed boys or girls being physically violent to persons they were dating in the last six months.
 - » Nearly half of students surveyed (49%) report having been a victim of sexual harassment in the past six months, such as being “touched, grabbed, or pinched in a sexual way,” or that someone “made sexual jokes” about them (*Start Strong, 2012*).



References for Statistics

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Teenage Research Unlimited for the Family Violence Prevention Fund and Liz Claiborne. (2009). Impact off the economy and parent/teen dialogue on dating relationships and abuse. Retrieved from <http://www.loveisnotabuse.com/pdf/Liz%20Claiborne%20Teen%20Dating%20Abuse%20and%20the%20Economy%20Research%20RPT.pdf>.

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National Information and Referral Resources

AGENCY	TOLL-FREE NUMBER AND TTY/TDD	HOURS OF OPERATION	WEBSITE URL
American Domestic Violence Crisis Line (for American citizens victimized abroad)	866-USWOMEN	24/7/365	www.866uswomen.org
Futures Without Violence	TTY-800-595-4889 415-678-5500		www.futureswithoutviolence.org
National Center for Victims of Crime	N/A	N/A	www.ncvc.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233 TTY-800-787-3224	24/7/365	www.thehotline.org
National Human Trafficking Hotline	888-373-7888	24/7/365	www.polarisproject.org/
National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women			www.vawnet.org
National Organization for Victim Assistance	800-879-6682	Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EST	www.trynova.org
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence	800-537-2238 TTY-800-553-2508	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm EST	www.nrcdv.org
National Sexual Violence Resource Center	877-739-3895 TTY 717-909-0715	Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EST Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm EST	www.nsvrc.org
National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline	866-331-9474 TTY 866-331-8453	24/7/365	www.loveisrespect.org
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network	800-656-4673	24/7/365	www.rainn.org
Safe Start Center (Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention)			www.safestartcenter.org

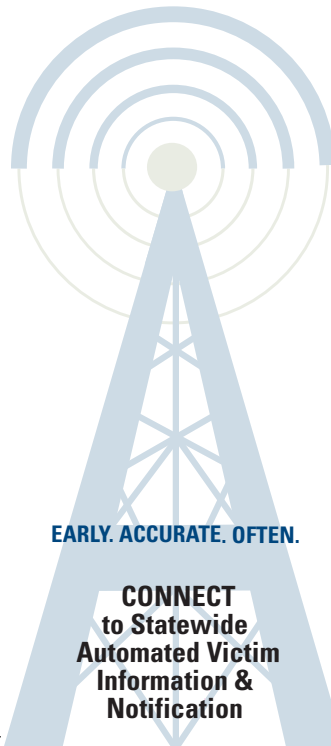
Buttons



Bookmark

FEBRUARY 2013
**National Teen Dating
Violence Awareness
& Prevention Month**

love
is
respect
caring
growth
non-violent



**National Teen Dating
Abuse Helpline**
866-331-9474
TTY 866-331-8453
www.loveisrespect.org

**National Domestic
Violence Hotline**
800-799-7233
TTY-800-787-3224
www.thehotline.org

**National Resource
Center on Domestic Violence**
800-537-2238
TTY-800-553-2508
www.nrcdv.org

**National Sexual Violence
Resource Center**
877-739-3895
TTY-717-909-0715
<http://www.nsvrc.org>

**Statewide Automated Victim
Information and Notification
SAVIN Online Community**
www.savinonline.org