

**New Hampshire Statewide Automated Victim Notification (SAVN) Program**  
**Victim/Survivor Roundtable Discussion**  
*May 16, 2012*

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

Welcome and participant and staff introductions

Identify participant expectations (*RECORD ON TEAR SHEETS*)

Review of Roundtable goals (*PARTICIPANT HANDOUT*)

**Discussion:**

*DISTRIBUTE WORKSHEET*

1. **In order to provide a strong foundation for our discussion today, it's important that we learn from *your perspectives about why victim notification is important to crime victims and survivors.*** Please take five minutes to answer this question on your worksheet, and then we'll have the opportunity to discuss your responses as a group.

*ASK PARTICIPANTS TO SHARE THEIR RESPONSES AND ANY ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS; RECORD ON TEAR SHEETS*

*COLLECT WORKSHEETS*

2. **From your experiences, what types of notifications are *most important to victims*** (*USE "NH DATA POINTS" AS REFERENCE*):
  - At pre-trial?
  - At trial?
  - Following the sentencing or disposition?
  - Prior to parole hearings?
  - When convicted offenders are supervised in the community on probation or parole?

- When there is a protective order from the court?
- 3. The New Hampshire SAVN program will use technology to notify victims about key events related to their cases, and the status of their offenders. We'd like to discuss your opinions about the methods of notification that may be developed:**
- Telephone (outgoing calls)
  - Website (that victims can access 24/7 for offender and case information)
  - Text/SMS
  - Emails
  - Snail mail letters
    - Do you have any suggestions or guidance on the format of these delivery methods?
    - Do you have any concerns about victim privacy or safety that SAVN should address?
    - Any other issues or concerns?
- 4. What level of victim notification would be satisfactory to victims/survivors?**
- Some may want to know "everything"
  - Some may want only specific notifications
- 5. How often would victims be willing to update their contact information and information/notification preferences?**
- Discuss victims' proactive role in keeping their contact information current and up-to-date.
  - Discuss SAVN enrollment of others close to the victim, i.e., family members, co-workers, etc.
- 6. Do you have any issues or concerns about the use of technology for victim notification?**
- 7. Victim advocates and justice professionals will be available to help victims and survivors enroll in SAVN, and access SAVN services. What types of guidance, information and assistance would be most helpful to victims who seek SAVN services?**

**NH SAVN will also provide important information to victims that can help them cope with the aftermath of the crime. What types of information do you think are most important to crime victims and survivors? (USE SAVIN INFORMATION OVERVIEW/PARTICIPANT HANDOUT AS REFERENCE):**

- General information about NH SAVN and how it works
- Overview of victims' rights in NH
- Information and fact sheets about different types of victimization
- Overview of the CJS
- Glossary of Terms for the CJS and victim services
- Resource directory of victim services in NH
- Overview of victim services and how to access them
- Events and training programs
- News and media
- Policy and legislation
- How SAVN website visitors can get involved in victim assistance

8. As we develop our SAVN system, would you be willing to advise us on its scope and services?

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS ROUNDTABLE. THE NATIONAL SAVIN PROJECT WILL BE DEVELOPING A *SUMMARY REPORT* OF OUR DISCUSSIONS, WHICH WE WILL EMAIL TO YOU UPON COMPLETION.**

## **ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT WORK SHEETS**

### **New Hampshire Statewide Automated Victim Notification (SAVN) Program Victim/Survivor Roundtable Discussion**

***May 16, 2012***

*Thank you for participating in this important discussion!*

#### **Roundtable Goal**

The goal of our SAVN Victim/Survivor Roundtable discussion is to learn from the personal experiences of crime victims and survivors about why victim information and notification is important to them; the types and methods of victim notification that are most critical; and the information that is most important and helpful to victims in the aftermath of crime and across the criminal justice spectrum.

## **PARTICIPANT WORKSHEET**

**Why is victim notification important to crime victims and survivors?**

**PLEASE TAKE *FIVE MINUTES* TO RECORD YOUR THOUGHTS  
ON THIS WORKSHEET**

***WE WILL HAVE A FULL GROUP DISCUSSION OF EVERYONE'S RESPONSES, AND  
THEN COLLECT YOUR WORKSHEETS FOR OUR "SUMMARY REPORT."***

## The Scope of Victim Information Needs

General information about NH SAVN and how it works

Overview of victims' rights in NH

Information and fact sheets about different types of victimization

Overview of the CJS

"Glossary of Terms" for the CJS and victim services

Resource directory of victim services in NH

Overview of victim services and how to access them

Events and training programs

News and media

Policy and legislation

How SAVN website visitors can get involved in victim assistance

***ANYTHING ELSE?***