



Overview of the National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Program

In all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. Territories, crime victims and survivors have the right to be notified about their rights under law, the status of their cases, and the status of the alleged and/or convicted offenders in their cases. These rights are articulated in state law; Victims' Bills of Rights; and in 33 states, within the state's Constitution. By informing victims of their rights, **Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN)** programs may be able to help them understand their legal rights to information, participation, protection, a voice in the justice process, and restitution (among other rights).

Since 2005, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice has provided training and technical assistance to states and U.S. Territories that receive BJA funding to implement SAVIN programs. In 2009, the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) was awarded a grant by BJA to implement its **National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Program**. NCJA has partnered with Justice Solutions to implement the Program, and key Program co-sponsors include the American Correctional Association, American Probation and Parole Association, IJIS Institute, National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections, and the National Sheriffs' Association.

The Project Team has formed a cross-disciplinary Advisory Board to help guide the Program's development and outreach to SAVIN states. A needs assessment of SAVIN Administrators informed the development of on-site technical assistance and a National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Online Community website that features four key components:

- A **Virtual Library** that houses all resources collected from the field, including states' SAVIN policies, protocols, publications, victim and public awareness resources, and training curricula, along with resources developed by the Project Team.
- The **SAVIN Technical Assistance Request Response System (STARRS)** to provide a user-friendly, "one-stop shop" to meet the TA needs of SAVIN Administrators and practitioners, regardless of the nature or scope of the request.
- A **Training and Education Program** that not only directly educates SAVIN grantees and other interested stakeholders about all aspects of SAVIN systems, but also gives them tools to educate themselves, their criminal justice, crime victim assistance, and allied professional colleagues, and the public.
- **SAVIN Program Support and Development** to help SAVIN grantees enhance their service delivery (particularly with respect to collecting and reporting on required program performance measures) to support the efforts of SAVIN national and Federal partners.

In addition, the Program sponsors an annual National SAVIN Training and Technical Assistance Workshop to promote best practices in SAVIN program planning, implementation and evaluation, and networking and collaboration among SAVIN Administrators and practitioners. The BJA grant to NCJA provides funding for two representatives from each BJA-supported SAVIN state to attend the National Workshop.

For more information, please visit the SAVIN Online Community at <http://savinonline.org/>.

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