SAVIN NEWS AND UPDATES

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

MAY 2008

SAVIN
STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION

PROVIDED BY THE WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERRIFFS AND POLICE CHIEFS

Survey quote:

SAVIN is a very valuable tools for law enforcement, not just victims of crime.

In a perfect world, we would get more advanced notification of the releases. But then, in a perfect world there would be no crime.

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NEW WEBSITE: WWW.WASAVIN.ORG

The Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) service in Washington State is developing a direct contact link to make finding the service easier for users.

The first step was to have a web address that is clearly identified with the program in our state.

www.wasavin.org

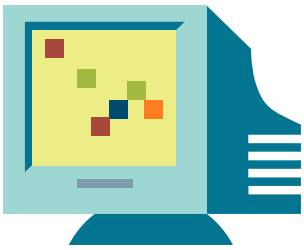
Using this web address will take the user directly to the Washington SAVIN home page. The www.vinelink.com address will still take users to the national map with its connection to Washington State.

Next steps will include more Washington specific information on the home page, links to other victim service agencies, and more expansive marketing efforts.

How is information about SAVIN being spread in your community?

The new, updated webpage is in place making registration for notification even easier. Registering by telephone with operator assistance is always available.

Printed informational materials about SAVIN and how to register is available at no cost in English, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese. The new web address will be added when materials are reprinted. Add the new address to the materials you currently have.



For offender information and registration call the Washington Statewide Victim Information and Notification service at

1-877-846-3492

1-866-847-1298 TTY

Or on line at

www.vinelink.com or

www.wasavin.org

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The Washington SAVIN project is an on-going effort to provide accurate, accessible, immediate information to victims of crime, victim advocates, law enforcement and others.

One of the biggest challenges is keeping those using the system updated on service improvements, product additions and other important information.

The creation of this quarterly newsletter is one tool used to communicate with and inform all interested parties. Please share it with other individuals, agencies, and organizations who may have contact with victims of crime.

Send any questions regarding the material presented to Dawn Larsen, Director of Projects, dlarsen@waspc.org.

PROTECTIVE ORDER NOTIFICATION AVAILABLE!

SAVIN Protective Order is a free telephone service that notifies petitioners when their protective orders have been served.

Petitioners can register any time day or night to receive phone notification when a domestic violence or sexual assault protective order has been served.

A petitioner calls **1-877-242-4055** and enters the protective order number and the county in which it was issued.

After law enforcement serves the protective order, they enter it into the WSP data bank. This information is sent to Appriss every hour. Phone notifications will go out immediately upon receipt. Petitioners will be asked to enter their PIN to receive the message.

This service has strong potential of being a vital piece for victim safety. **This is only one item in a victim's safety plan.**

(Brochures available)

CAUTION!

There are a variety of situations that may delay notification once the PO has been served. The most important unknown is the length of time from service until law enforcement enters the information into the WSP data base. Advocates must work with their local law enforcement agencies on this issue.

JBRS: JAIL BOOKING AND REPORTING SYSTEM

SAVIN and JBRS are important tools for individual and community safety. However they must be used to work!

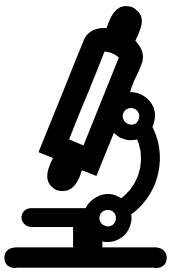
Washington SAVIN information is pulled from a larger data base called JBRS (Jail Booking and Reporting System). This system is available at no cost to criminal justice agency staff through an unlimited license purchased by WASPC.

JBRS is an investigative tool that allows criminal justice staff access to booking records in this state and thousands of agencies across the country. It provides historical booking information, detailed offender information, offender watch capabilities, and the ability to design wanted posters and photo lineups.

Tong Berger, Crime Analysis Supervisor for Pierce County Sheriff's Department has found six people that probably would have been missed without the help of JBRS. One of these individuals had been sought for over eight months.

For information about agency and individual registration for JBRS access contact Dawn Larsen, Director of Projects at dlarsen@waspc.org or 360-486-2419.

DNA TESTING: FOR UNKNOWN ASSAILANT CASES



In 2006 WASPC received federal funds to establish the Stranger Rape DNA Project.

In order to meet the growing demands for DNA testing, the grant allows DNA evidence in sexual assault unknown suspect cases to be outsourced to a private lab with a guaranteed 30 day turnaround.

Case eligibility includes sexual assault cases when the offender identity is unknown, sexually motivate homicides and sexually motivated burglaries.

Once the DNA evidence has been tested, the DNA profile is entered into the national and state data bases. Historically 30% of the cases are being connected to offenders already in the system.

DNA analysis has become an essential tool to law enforcement for its accuracy and scientific linkage to suspects.

For more information contact Dawn Larsen, Director of Projects, at dlarsen@waspc.org or 360-486-2419.

APPRISS INC., TECHNOLOGY PIONEER, HONORED

Appriss, Inc. developer of VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) received the 2008 Leadership Award from the National Center for Victims of Crime.

VINE is the system used by the Washington SAVIN (Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification) service which keeps victims and other users informed 24 hours a day on the custody status of offenders. The program is now in over 2000 communities in 43 states.

Appriss, Inc. was one of three innovators who received the award on May 6, 2008. Applied Biosystems working with advanced DNA analysis and ChoicePoints providing background screening were the other tow recipients.

"These three visionaries have harnessed the power of technology to help victims of crime", said Mary Lou Leary, executive director of the National Center for Victims of Crime. "Their work has helped notify and protect victims of violent crime, solve crimes and free the innocent, and prevent future crime".

WAASPC is pleased to work with Appriss, Inc. not only for SAVIN, but also for JBRS, an investigative tool for criminal justice agencies, and VPO, protective order notification.

THANK YOU, APPRISS INC.

SAVIN PROGRAM EVALUATION: INITIAL RESULTS

Although the research project is not yet complete we were able to present our initial findings and research model at the National SAVIN Conference in Washington DC in April.

Using WSU criminal justice students from four locations around the state, 603 requests for notification were made on offenders in 12 county facilities. 92% of the notifications were timely. Of the remaining 8%, reasons for the delay are still being researched. At least 20% of those were the result of an offender's release date being changed beyond the dates of the project.

25% of practitioners responded to the survey evaluating the training component. The vast majority have found the program useful in their work and have shared the information with co-workers and victims of crime.

A side benefit of the research component was the in class presentations on services to victims of crime by WSU staff and a community victim advocate.

"This type of victim notification is crucial for jurisdictions with limited resources. … an excellent example of utilizing technology to enhance victim safety"

Survey quote

SAVIN INFORMATION, STATISTICS, TRAINING NEWS

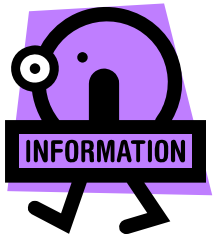
1.As of April 30, 2008, all county jails, except Cowlitz County, are up and running.

Cowlitz County should be on in the next month or so. For city jails only Kirkland, Aberdeen and Fife need to be added. Kirkland is in progress.

2. From January 1, 2008 through April 2008, 3,289 people have registered for notification when there is a change in an offender's custody status. In this same time period, 4,958 notifications were sent. The system can also be used to verify an offender's custody status. There were 14,362 searches for information

4. VINE operators are available 24 hours a day, every day to provide assistance. 1-866-846-3492, then press 0.

5. **Scheduled trainings**:
*WAPA victim/witness conference , May 16
* WCSAP conference, May 22
*Wahkiakum County, June 12
*Clallam County, June 17
*Whatcom County, June 18



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NEED PRINTED MATERIALS?

FOR BROCHURES, POSTERS AND TEAR SHEETS IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, RUSSIAN AND VIETNAMESE CONTACT:

DAWN LARSEN
DIRECTOR OF PROJECTS
WASPC 360-486-2419

The Washington SAVIN project was supported by Grant No. 2006VNCK0004 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also included the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.

SCHEDULE A TRAINING: SAVIN, JBRS, DNA, PROTECTIVE ORDERS

One of the biggest challenges for the long term success of SAVIN and JBRS is ensuring continuous training for agencies and organizations. In addition, as these programs continue to evolve, it is vital to keep those using the services up-dated.

The training and all programs are **free** to all users and participants.

Trainings are two hours long and include information on Statewide Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN), the Jail Booking and Reporting System (JBRS), the Stranger Rape DNA project (DNA testing for unknown assailant cases including sexually motivated homicides and sexually motivated burglaries), and Protective Order service notification.

Contact:

Dawn Larsen, Director of Projects, at

dlarsen@waspc.org or

360-486-2419

Want a free training for your community?

Only two things are needed:

1. Arrange a training site that has internet access.
2. Help advertise the event to anyone in your area who has early contact with victims of crime, including victim advocates, law enforcement, prosecuting attorney office staff, school counselors, pastors, emergency room, staff and jail personnel.