

# **Will I find out when the person who harmed me will be released from prison?**

## **Author**

Northwest Justice Project

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There's a program that will let you know (notify you) if the person who hurt you will be released from prison. Finding this out in advance will help you have plans in place.

## **Should I read this?**

Yes, if both are true:

1. You're a survivor of certain types of violent crimes.
2. The person who hurt you is in a prison in Washington State.

## **Does this program cover me?**

It depends on the offense.

You can get advance notification under this program if you're a survivor of one of these types of crimes:

- Any violent, sex, felony harassment, or domestic violence offense
- Violation of a domestic violence court order
- Third degree assault
- Unlawful imprisonment
- Vehicular or substance abuse homicide, if you're next of kin of the homicide victim

## **How can I find out when the prison is letting the person out?**

You should sign up for the Advance Notification Program (<https://www.doc.wa.gov/victims/notification.htm>) of the state Department of Corrections (DOC). It will tell you at least **30 days** before their release when a prison is going to let someone out.

## **Who can sign up for Advance Notification?**

- Any victim of or witness to one of the types of crime listed above, where the person who did this to you was convicted, can sign up.
- Any next of kin to a murder victim, including vehicular homicide and controlled substances homicide, can sign up.
- You can sign up if the prosecutor writes you to tell you that you can.

## **What if I can't sign up for Advance Notification?**

Para recibir notificaciones importantes para la seguridad de las víctimas, inscríbase en Washington VINELink (<https://vinelink.vineapps.com/state/WA>)  
Estas notificaciones incluyen:

- Si el agresor ha sido trasladado o liberado de la cárcel o la prisión
- Si el agresor intenta comprar o transferir un arma de fuego cuando se le ha prohibido, y se la han negado

- Cuando se ha realizado la notificación oficial de la orden de protección
- Un recordatorio cuando falten 90 días para que venza su orden de protección

En el caso de determinados delitos violentos, puede solicitar al Departamento de Correcciones una notificación previa (<https://www.doc.wa.gov/victims/notification.htm>) de traslado o liberación.

**If you might need safety planning, start now.** Victim advocates across the state with training can help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and violent crime. They can help you with safety planning and getting protection orders to help protect you and your family.

## **When will I find out that the person who hurt me is being released from prison?**

Under state law, you should get notice at least **30 days** before their release.

### **The person I am concerned about is in jail, not prison.**

The county where a jail is located decides releases from jail. Call the prosecutor's office handling the person's criminal case. Ask them to let you know if that person is going to be let out of jail.

### **Where can I get help?**

**¡Las organizaciones comunitarias pueden ayudar!** Si usted ha experimentado violencia doméstica, acoso, acecho o agresión

sexual, o la amenaza de cualquiera de ellos, pida ayuda al refugio para sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica o al centro para víctimas de agresión sexual de su localidad. Los refugios ofrecen planes de seguridad, alojamiento temporal, defensa legal, asesoramiento y otros servicios

Visite el sitio web de Información y Remisiones sobre la Violencia Doméstica del Estado de Washington (<https://www.domesticviolenceinforeferral.org/domestic-violence-programs>) para buscar programas locales por condado, o programas específicos de cada cultura o comunidad ([https://www.domesticviolenceinforeferral.org/domestic-violence-programs?field\\_county\\_value=All&field\\_program\\_catagory\\_tid=1](https://www.domesticviolenceinforeferral.org/domestic-violence-programs?field_county_value=All&field_program_catagory_tid=1)) o programas tribales ([https://www.domesticviolenceinforeferral.org/domestic-violence-programs?field\\_county\\_value=All&field\\_program\\_catagory\\_tid=2](https://www.domesticviolenceinforeferral.org/domestic-violence-programs?field_county_value=All&field_program_catagory_tid=2)).

Puede llamar, enviar mensajes de texto o chatear en línea con intercesores 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana, en cualquiera de estos lugares:

- National Domestic Violence Hotline (<https://espanol.thehotline.org/>), (*Línea Directa Nacional contra la Violencia Doméstica*) 1-800-799-7233
- National Sexual Assault Hotline (<https://rainn.org/resources>), (*Línea Directa Nacional contra la Agresión Sexual*) 1-800-656-4673

- StrongHearts Native Helpline  
[\(https://strongheartshelpline.org/\)](https://strongheartshelpline.org/)  
[\(https://strongheartshelpline.org/\)](https://strongheartshelpline.org/) (*Línea de Ayuda Indígena Stronghearts*) (servicio de apoyo de pares de la Línea Directa Nacional contra la Violencia Doméstica), 1-844-762-8483

Northwest Justice Project (NJP) (https://wlh.netlify.app/en/get-legal-help) - NJP provides legal services and referrals for domestic violence and Victim of Crime Act help.

You don't have to pay to file for or have served a civil domestic violence or sexual assault protection order in the state of Washington.

**WashingtonLawHelp.org** gives general information. It is not legal advice.

Find organizations that provide free legal help on our Get legal help page.

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