

# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS HONORS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 10-16**

(JUNEAU) – The Alaska Department of Corrections is marking National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 10-16, by highlighting the statewide service provided by the VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) and VINELink victim notification system. ([www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com) or toll free: 1 800 247 9763)

The VINE System allows crime victims or other interested citizens to receive immediate telephone notification of a prisoner's change in status: release, death, escape or transfer to a less restrictive level of custody. In 1999, Alaska became one of the first states connected to VINE, which is provided by Kentucky-based Appriss, Inc.

This year in Alaska, VINE has registered 8,677 crime victims with 12,016 incoming calls and 5,240 outgoing notification calls made. The online VINELink system has recorded 133 registrations this year. In March, the department saw 3,057 new VINE registrations.

"Each new registration, each call represents an Alaskan crime victim who may be resting just a little easier, and feeling just a little safer," said Corrections Commissioner Marc Antrim. "The department takes the rights of crime victims very seriously. Providing accurate, up-to-date information on offenders is a cornerstone of crime victims' rights."

The Department of Corrections has distributed public service announcements (PSAs) to radio and television stations with information explaining the use and value the VINE system provides to victims of crime.