



County Sheriffs of Colorado

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September 1, 2008

Executive Director Donald E. Christensen

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County Sheriffs of Colorado is pleased to announce that they have been awarded a SAVIN grant to establish Phase II of the Colorado statewide automated victim information and notification system. This system, referred to as Colorado Statewide VINE will enable your jail or facility to meet victim rights requirements in Colorado law. More importantly, it will empower victims by allowing them to call a toll-free number or check a website for offender-status information from anywhere, at any time. The system allows crime victims to be registered for notification on the status of an offender who is incarcerated in a county jail. This will provide immediate notification regarding any change in the status of the offender. Colorado Statewide VINE will greatly benefit citizens, law enforcement, courts, prosecuting attorneys, victim advocates, and other justice professionals.

The Colorado Statewide VINE, powered by the software: VINE, will be accessible by calling this toll-free number: 1-888-CO-3-VINE (1-888-263-8463). This is a free, 24 hour service. Anyone seeking victim information and notification can call the toll-free number or go on-line at www.vinelink.com, any time of day or night and register to be notified of a status change.

To implement Colorado Statewide VINE, CSOC has entered into a contract with Appriss, Inc. Since 1994, Appriss has provided innovative technology solutions that help hundreds of local, state, and federal government agencies serve and protect their citizens. Appriss' product: VINE, makes it easy for crime victims and other citizens to obtain timely information about the custody status of offenders held in local jails across the state.

Phase II of the Colorado Statewide VINE will be implemented over the two-year SAVIN grant period, with the first agencies coming online in just a few weeks. Within the next several months, CSOC in conjunction with Appriss will conduct training for law enforcement personnel, justice professionals, and victim services providers throughout the state regarding the Colorado Statewide VINE.

The enclosed material must be completed and returned to Appriss, Inc., as soon as possible to facilitate the inclusion of your facility within the Colorado Statewide VINE. To learn more about the Colorado Statewide VINE please contact Gary Cure, CSOC Assistant Executive Director, for this valuable initiative. Gary can be reached at 720-344-4612 or you can e-mail him at gcure@csoc.org.

You may find it helpful to visit Appriss' VINE website at <http://www.appriss.com/VINE.html>. For information specific to Colorado Statewide VINE, such as documentation, resources and status updates, please visit <http://www.appriss.com/covine>.

We need your help to successfully launch this service and ensure that victims know how to use it.

Thank you for your continued support on this public safety initiative and I look forward to working with you on this issue and other issues in the future.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Christensen
Executive Director