

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
**CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

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**Press Release**

January 26, 2012

**Re: Victims notification to get boost in funding if existing money can be used to notify them**

"The New Mexico Corrections Department is in support of two bills introduced in the 2012 Legislative Session by Senator Clinton D. Harden.

One of those bills, Senate Bill 176 reverts existing funds in the "Corrections Department Intensive Supervision fund" for use with victim notification efforts.

So often centered upon the crime and offender, the mere design of our criminal justice system often lends itself to callousness for crime victims. While our criminal justice system works very hard to protect the people of New Mexico, victims of crime must always face the realities of managing their lives following their attack. This amendment to the existing statute could mean faster and more efficient means of notifying victims when their perpetrators are released. It could allow greater funding for probation and parole supervision programs, the very initiatives seeking to reduce recidivism and crime victimization in our neighborhoods. By doing so, we may not only lessen the costs associated with confinement of inmates and save New Mexico tax dollars, but also increase the safety and security of our families, homes, and neighbors, while providing appropriate respect to those around us who have been victimized."

--Gregg Marcantel  
Secretary Designate

Senator Harden will be available for an interview at the Roundhouse on Friday January 27. We will also try to provide a victim who is in support of Bill 176. Please coordinate with me for interviews between 9:00 am to noon.

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