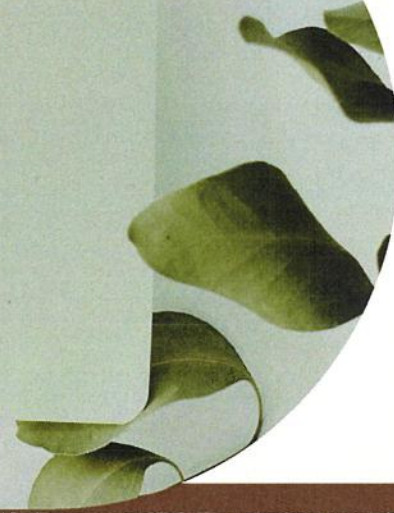


Understanding the Apology Bank Program

The Apology Letter serves as a formal and secure means for an incarcerated individual to express a sincere apology to those affected by their actions. This monitored process is designed solely for communication and is not a required step in the individual's case plan or treatment program. It is important to emphasize that these letters are never used to request forgiveness, a pardon, or to justify past offenses. If a letter contains such requests or excuses, it will be returned to the sender without further action.

S O R R Y



The Vermont APOLOGY LETTER BANK

Department of
Corrections
Victim Services Unit



CONTACT US



1-888-810-1847



ahs.docvictimservices@vermont.gov



Corrections Victim Services
Program
280 State Dr.
NOB 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2000

REVIEW PROCESS

Each letter undergoes careful review by the individual's caseworker, treatment provider, or a member of the victim services program before being filed with the Apology Letter Bank. Only after it is deemed appropriate, will the letter be formally recorded in the system.



APPROVED LETTERS

Once filed, the letter is securely stored within the DOC Victim Services Unit (VSU). The unit then formally notifies the victim that an apology letter has been written for them. The victim retains full control over the process and may decline the letter at any time. If they choose to proceed, the VSU will coordinate with them to determine the preferred method for engaging with its contents.

OVERALL GOAL

The DOC Victim Services Unit (VSU) is dedicated to providing victims, survivors, and incarcerated individuals with meaningful tools for healing. The Apology Letter Bank offers a structured opportunity for survivors to receive a direct apology from the offender, fostering a path toward emotional restoration. This process not only holds significant potential for incarcerated individuals to engage in rehabilitation programs but also helps them rebuild a sense of accountability and hope.

As a victim-centered restorative justice initiative, this program is designed to support healing for all participants, allowing them to move forward with their lives in a meaningful and constructive way.