

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG CONVENES TASK FORCE TO PLAN, IMPLEMENT AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

(MONTGOMERY)---Attorney General Luther Strange announced the creation of an automated victim notification system and the formation of an Implementation Task Force charged with overseeing the development and integration of the automated victim notification system.

In the 2011 Regular Legislative Session, the Legislature passed Act 2011-681, which amends Alabama law relating to the meetings and authority of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and provides changes to the notification of victims about pardon and parole hearings by providing for the creation and use of an automated notification system.

Attorney General Strange convened the task force for its first official meeting on November 8 at the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center in Montgomery. The members met to lay the groundwork for the automated system and viewed a blueprint demonstration of the notification system.

“Providing an automated system that lets victims register themselves and choose how they want to be contacted is an exciting step that moves Alabama’s victim notification process into the 21st century,” said Attorney General Strange. “Our goal is to provide an efficient service that is comfortable for victims and addresses their needs.”

In addition to Attorney General Strange, task force members include the following: Cynthia Dillard and Meridith Barnes of the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles, Darlene Hutchinson Biehl and Wanda Jones Miller as representatives of victims, Barry Matson of the District Attorneys Association, Patty DeBortoli of the Attorney General’s Office, Kim Martin of the Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission, Kim Thomas of the Alabama Department of Corrections and Anna Tadlock of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

The automated system will be available through the Attorney General’s website www.ago.alabama.gov. The system will allow victims to self register online in order to be notified electronically. Victims who have questions regarding the system or taskforce may contact the Attorney General’s Office of Victims Assistance by calling toll-free 1-800-626-7676.

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