

## Victim information available in Spanish

By The Citizen staff report

Friday, December 4, 2009 11:58 PM EST

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New York state will be the first state to offer information in Spanish to victims looking to track their offenders through the criminal justice system.

The state Department of Corrections announced Monday that victims using the Victim Information and Notification Everyday system can use Spanish beginning on Dec. 8.

The system allows victims to track their offender's location while they are incarcerated in jail or prison. The system also notifies victims through a phone call or e-mail if their offender is being released from custody or if their offender is sent back to prison or jail.

A \$30,000 federal grant was used to fund the addition of Spanish language services.

“Crime victims come from all walks of life, backgrounds and cultures,” said Crime Victims Board Chairwoman Tina Stanford in a press release. “Victims shouldn't be disadvantaged to learning information that can be essential to their safety and peace of mind because English isn't their first language.”

For more information about VINE or to register for its services, victims can call (888) 846-3469 or go to [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com).

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