The Execution of Custodial Sentence Act (*Narodne novine* No. 14/21) regulates in its provisions the unsupervised temporary release and escape of inmates, and please find below the clarification of specific terms within the meaning of the Act relevant to the notification of victims.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

PRIVILEGES

During imprisonment, eligible inmates may be granted privileges of temporary release from the penitentiary/prison to visit their place of domicile or residence or other place (usually for the weekend) and annual leave at the place of domicile or residence or other place. The Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim who requested such information of such occasional releases of inmates from the correctional institution. If such privileges are granted, the victim will be notified of the first release as well as any subsequent release, if so requested.

In some cases, before the privilege of visiting the place of domicile or residence is granted, the correctional institution may request a report on the victim’s attitude towards the committed crime for the purposes of granting the privilege. The Service for Victim and Witness Support will only produce such a report if the victim is willing to express their attitude.

Please note that, under the Ordinance, the Service for Victim and Witness Support will not notify the victim when an inmate uses the privilege of leaving the prison/penitentiary accompanied by a visitor to stay in the place where the prison/penitentiary is located or other place in accordance with the House Rules for a period of two to eight hours, or the privilege of visiting, unaccompanied, the place where the prison/penitentiary or other place in accordance with the House Rules for two to four hours.

REGULAR RELEASE / FULL SENTENCE EXPIRY

A regular release refers to the release from imprisonment upon expiry of the full custodial sentence. The Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim who so requested of the date of regular release.

CONDITIONAL RELEASE

Inmates are entitled to propose a conditional release plan, i.e. apply for release from prison before the expiry of the full custodial sentence. If the executing judge grants conditional release, the Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim who so requested of the date of conditional release.

INTERRUPTION OF CUSTODIAL SENTENCE

The interruption of a custodial sentence refers to the temporary release of an inmate from the penitentiary/prison during which the sentence term does not run. The Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim who so requested of the date of interruption of custodial sentence.

In some cases, before issuing a decision on interruption, the executing judge may request a report on the victim’s attitude towards the committed crime. The Service for Victim and Witness Support will only produce such a report if the victim is willing to express their attitude.

ESCAPE

An escape refers to any departure from a penitentiary/prison without authorisation and any failure to return from temporary release, extraordinary release or interruption of the sentence. In the event of an inmate’s escape, the victim will first be notified by the police. Upon receiving the notification from the correctional institution, the Service for Victim and Witness Support will also notify the victim who so requested and provide additional support.

EXTRAORDINARY UNSUPERVISED TEMPORARY RELEASE

The director of a correctional institution may grant an inmate an extraordinary temporary release for the purpose of attending the burial of a family member, a visit to a seriously ill family member, the birth or wedding of a family member and for other reasons. In the event that the director of the correctional institution authorises an extraordinary release, the Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim who so requested accordingly.

INMATE NOT RELEASED UPON EXPIRY OF SENTENCE BUT REMAINS IN THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION ON A DIFFERENT GROUND

In the event that an inmate is not released upon expiry of the full sentence but remains in the penitentiary/prison on a different ground (to serve a custodial sentence for another criminal offence or to stay in pre-trial detention), the Service for Victim and Witness Support will notify the victim that the inmate has served the term of imprisonment for the criminal offence for which they were listed as a victim and that the inmate will continue to serve a custodial sentence for another offence.

The Service for Victim and Witness Support will be notified by the correctional institution concerned of the first temporary release or the expiry of the inmate’s term of imprisonment on a different ground, and will in turn notify the victim who so requested accordingly.