

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PAROLE DIVISION**



**POLICY AND
OPERATING PROCEDURE**

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DATE: 09/24/18

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SUPERSEDES: 08/16/05

SUBJECT: VICTIM-OFFENDER MEDIATION/DIALOGUE

AUTHORITY: TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE § 508.324

PURPOSE: To establish procedures for field staff when a victim requests victim-offender mediation/dialogue (VOMD).

PROCEDURE:

- I. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Parole Division (TDCJ-PD) will cooperate fully with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Victim Services Division (TDCJ-VSD) staff in assisting victims of violent crimes who seek to participate in victim-offender mediation or dialogue with offenders supervised on parole or mandatory supervision.

- II. PAROLE DIVISION RESPONSIBILITY
 - A. If a victim contacts the TDCJ-PD and requests VOMD, the TDCJ-PD shall provide the victim with the following information within one (1) business day:
 1. TDCJ-VSD Phone Number: 512-406-5929 or 1-800-848-4284
 2. Address: TDCJ-VSD VOMD
P.O. Box 13401
Austin, Texas 78711
vsd.vomd@tdcj.texas.gov
 - B. The TDCJ-PD shall advise the victim that TDCJ-VSD arranges all VOMD.
 - C. The TDCJ-PD shall not initiate contact between an offender and the victim under any circumstances.

- III. By statute, offenders are not required to participate in VOMD, and the TDCJ-PD shall never pressure, coerce, or penalize an offender who does not choose to participate.
- IV. Due to victim sensitivity and confidentiality of the VOMD, no communication concerning this process shall be mentioned in the Offender Information Management System (OIMS).

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