



**Snohomish County
County Executive's Office**

For immediate release – Monday, October 17, 2005

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Executive Reardon Launches Victim Information and Notification System

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon, today celebrated the inaugural use of the Victim Information and Notification System Everyday (VINE) program, aimed at informing victims of crimes of the time and date of an adult offender's release or transfer from Snohomish County and Lynnwood jail facilities.

“Public Safety is our highest priority. VINE is a weapon against crime. It is one more example of how Snohomish County is working to protect its citizens,” said Reardon.

Each day, Snohomish County jails release about 17 domestic violence offenders. Their release often creates a high risk of future abuse or retaliation for victims, their children and families. VINE is one more tool available for victims and their families to help protect themselves.

VINE gives victims and their families, the ability to track their attackers, 24-hours a day, everyday.

“VINE gives back control to the victim.” says Reardon. “It allows them to live without fear.”

VINE is available to victims and their families via the internet and telephone. By registering into the system, victims are called immediately if the offender is either released from jail or transferred to another jail facility.

VINE is the result of a public/private partnership between the Snohomish County Executive, Snohomish County Department of Corrections, Information Services Snohomish Domestic Violence Task Force, South County Domestic Violence Task Force and AT&T.

Total costs for VINE is \$75,000. This includes \$35,000 start up fees, and \$40,000 base support for 12 months that includes: a wide area network connection, special language startup fees, process evaluation, and additional pamphlets and brochures.

An Inmate Telephone Contract between AT&T and Snohomish County provides the entire VINE program at no cost to the County.

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For additional information, please contact:

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