NACRJ Policy Statement on Victim Offender Mediated Dialogue (VOMD) in State Government Correctional Facilities in the United States:

1. The NACRJ Board of Directors seeks to promote policies or practices that allow mediated or facilitated contact between victims and offenders. While we recognize that there are states with a no victim offender contact policy, we strongly encourage those states to reconsider their positions and join the more than twenty states that already have formal protocol to make VOMD available to those victims and survivors who request it. We are calling for all states to adopt VOMD programming, which promotes healing of victims and works toward earning redemption for offenders while increasing accountability for their actions.¹

2. NACRJ seeks to assist states:
   a. In developing the policy and capacity to support victims of crime who seek a VOMD process in states where VOMD programming in correctional facilities is not currently offered.
   b. To develop evidence-based policy and practices to implement VOD practices where they do not currently exist.
   c. To make technical supports available to corrections staff in states seeking to initiate VOMD programming.

3. NACRJ seeks to create awareness of the potential of VOMD to augment correctional practices in ways that are meaningful to victims and offenders and promote increased safety within correctional institutions.

¹ NACRJ recognizes that within those systems with a no-contact policy correctional administrators may have discretionary authority to waive the prohibition in particular cases. While a discretionary waiver is a good step, it is at the discretion of the correctional administrator and is not supported by policy. Allowing VOMD programming within prisons by policy systematizes the option and when used provides an added level of personal accountability for offenders to their victims or their families which is otherwise not available to them.
Separate From the Vote on the Policy Statement

Addendum on Implementation and Management Issues

Guidelines on implementation and management of VOMD in state prisons are in development and will be added at a later date. The guidelines will be informed by those for “Victim Centered Victim Offender Dialogue in Crimes of Severe Violence” published by the National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections, the guidelines published by the State of Colorado for Victim Offender Mediation and other sources.