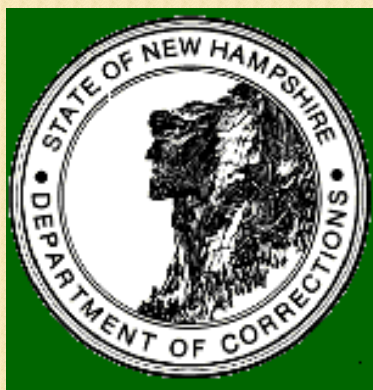


# COURT-ORDERED RESTITUTION

COMPENSATING CRIME  
VICTIMS

FOR LOSSES & EXPENSES  
RESULTING FROM THE  
OFFENSE



[www.nh.gov/nhdoc](http://www.nh.gov/nhdoc)

## VICTIM RESTITUTION

### **The offender in my case was ordered by the court to pay restitution. How is restitution collected and paid to crime victim(s)?**

Restitution is for economic losses directly resulting from crime. Supporting documentation must demonstrate monetary value of the victim's losses. Offender payments are received at the central Collections Unit of the NH Department of Corrections (NHDOC). Monies are deposited in a non-interest bearing escrow account. The Collections Unit submits a bi-weekly electronic file to the NH State Treasurer. Restitution checks are then processed and mailed to crime victim payees.

### **When can I expect to see my restitution?**

Restitution money is disbursed to the crime victim in minimum payments of \$25 (or less if total due is under \$25). While incarcerated, it may take an offender several months to accumulate \$25. When employed on probation, parole or work release, the amount of restitution payments is expected to be greater as determined by a Payment Plan. Payments by the offender are processed as received. Payments by personal check require a 30-day hold until the check clears.

### **How much can I expect to receive in each restitution payment?**

- While incarcerated, 10% of any monies deposited in the inmate's account are deducted for restitution obligations.
- While on probation, parole, or collections-only status, whether in state or out-of-state, the offender has a Payment Plan Agreement based upon his/her income, reasonable expenses, and any timeframe ordered.

- As required by law, a 17% administrative fee is collected in addition to the victim's total restitution (15% to maximize NHDOC collection efforts and 2% to the NH Victims' Assistance Fund). Therefore, 83% of every payment made by the offender is deposited directly to a crime victim's account. When a minimum amount of \$25 is accumulated, the State Treasurer issues a check.

**If the offender owes victim restitution to more than one person, who gets paid first?**

Restitution is collected and disbursed first to crime victims with earlier crime dates. After an earlier victim's account is paid in full, payments to the next person(s) begin. When restitution is ordered for multiple victims of the same crime, each crime victim is distributed their percentage out of each payment made by the offender.

**What if the offender completes the court sentence still owing restitution, or defaults on the payments?**

The offender's obligation to pay continues until the crime victim is paid in full, *regardless* of when other terms of the sentence end. Each month, the NHDOC notifies the offender about the balance due for victim restitution and other financial obligations. If payments do not continue, the NHDOC brings the matter before the sentencing court for further action.

**If I am awarded damages in a civil suit against the offender, am I still entitled to restitution payments?**

New Hampshire law provides that any restitution ordered and paid shall be deducted from the amount of any judgment awarded in a civil action.

**What if the offender declares bankruptcy?**

By law, criminal restitution is not a dischargeable debt. The offender continues to be liable for all court-ordered restitution payments.

**Will my mailing address be given to the offender?**

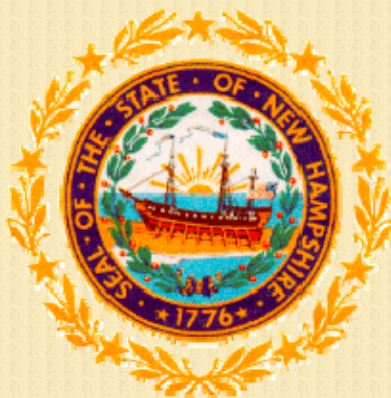
No. Your contact information is confidential and cannot be accessed by the offender.

**What happens if I move and do not notify the NH Department of Corrections of my new mailing address?**

If the U.S. Postal Service returns your restitution check, the NHDOC Collections Unit will keep it while reasonable efforts are made to locate you. After 6 months, your restitution check is voided. By law, unclaimed restitution is deposited in the Victims' Assistance Fund through the NH Victim Assistance Commission. Should your address later become known to NHDOC, restitution payments can resume directly to you. It is in your best interest to inform the NHDOC Victim Services Office and/or the NHDOC Collections Unit about any change in your mailing address.

**Whom do I contact if I have questions about restitution payment schedules, etc.?**

You may contact the assigned District Office, the NHDOC Collections Unit, or the Victim Services Office to verify the offender's collection status.



# YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE COMPENSATED FOR YOUR LOSSES

**NH RSA 21-M:8-k** provides for the rights of crime victims in New Hampshire, including the right to restitution and compensation.

**NH RSA 651:61-a et al** governs court-ordered restitution for crime victims. The offender pays restitution for the victim through the NH Department of Corrections, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

**NH RSA 21-M:8-h** governs eligibility for compensation for persons who sustain personal injury resulting from any crime. Separate from restitution, Victim Compensation is available through the NH Victims' Assistance Commission. Additional information is available at (800) 300-4500, (603) 271-1284, or [www.doj.nh.gov](http://www.doj.nh.gov).



**NH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**DISTRICT OFFICES  
(FIELD SERVICES)**

**(603)**

BERLIN	752-0429
CLAREMONT	542-2470
CONCORD	271-2268
DOVER	742-6621
EXETER	772-4730
KEENE	352-4139
LACONIA	527-2471
MANCHESTER	668-0432
NASHUA	886-3444
NORTH HAVERHILL	787-6900
WOLFEBORO	569-0124

**OTHER**

COLLECTIONS UNIT	271-0103
PAROLE BOARD	271-2569
VICTIM SERVICES	271-7351
	888-NH-NOTICE

**NH Department of Corrections  
Collections Unit  
PO Box 3356  
Concord, NH 03302-3356**

**NH Department of Corrections  
Victim Services Office  
PO Box 1806  
Concord, NH 03302-1806**