



## INMATE FAMILY/SUPPORTER INFORMATION

In an effort to protect the inmate population, during the current global pandemic surrounding Coronavirus-19, the state is taking measures to prevent the spread of disease to the residents of correctional facilities. The SC Department of Corrections has limited access to their correctional institutions by suspending all visitation at their facilities until further notice. No supporters or family members will be allowed to attend parole hearings until such time as this ban has been lifted.

*Note: At this time, there is no change regarding attorney attendance. Attorneys will be allowed to attend the hearings, per the normal procedure.*

In an effort to ensure that every inmate has the right to present witnesses/evidence on his/her own behalf, the SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services is creating a **Hearing Witness Portal** that will allow supporters or family members who would have attended the parole hearing along with the inmate to submit a written statement of support via e-mail or US Postal Service at the addresses listed below. Please be reminded that the instructions received from SCDC limit the number of attendees to five. See below.

The inmate who is being considered for parole by the Parole Board may have up to five (5) total persons appear with him/her. Of the five, one (1) can be a minister/spiritual adviser, one (1) can be an attorney, and no more than three (3) can be family, friends, employers, etc.

Due to this normal restriction, only five statements per inmate from the **Hearing Witness Portal** will be presented to the Board. Any other statements received will be listed as Supporters, per the normal procedure.

In order to submit written Witness Testimony, use the link

[HearingWitnessPortal@ppp.sc.gov](mailto:HearingWitnessPortal@ppp.sc.gov)

OR submit your statement in writing to

SCDPPPS Hearing Witness Portal

293 Greystone Ave

Columbia, SC 29210

Statements must be received at least 48 hours prior to the actual hearing date.

## VICTIM AND WITNESS INFORMATION

Pursuant to the SC Constitution Victims' Bill of Rights, victims have the right be heard and be present at post-conviction hearings. The SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services is committed to ensuring this right is upheld. However, in an abundance of caution and in an effort to protect the health and safety of crime victims and the general public, the SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services is also offering alternative ways for crime victims and their supporters to testify at upcoming parole hearings.

1 – Submit your written statement via e-mail to [PPPVictimInformation@ppp.sc.gov](mailto:PPPVictimInformation@ppp.sc.gov)

OR submit your statement in writing to

SCDPPPS ATTN: Victim Services

293 Greystone Ave

Columbia, SC 29210

2 – Contact the Office of Victim Services to arrange for a Victim Advocate to contact you via telephone during the hearing to submit your audio testimony.