



## South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services

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# Top 10 Most Frequently Asked Questions by Victims of Crime

**1. *I have moved and now have a new mailing address. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and advise them. The address should be updated within 72 hours of notification.

**2. *I received a restitution check but I have misplaced it, lost it, or it was destroyed. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and advise them. The issue will be reviewed by our Central Office and in most cases, a replacement check will be issued.

**3. *I am not sure how much money I have already received in restitution payments and would like a payment history. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and request a history of all payments sent to you. The issue will be reviewed by our Central Office and a payment history listing will be mailed to the address we have on file within two weeks.



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4. ***My restitution checks are coming to me and my name is incorrectly spelled and I am unable to cash the check. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and advise them. Court documents will be reviewed for accuracy. In certain cases, you may be requested to submit information to correct the spelling and return the uncashed check to be re-issued correctly.

5. ***My last name has changed due to marriage or divorce. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and advise them. Be prepared to submit a legal document along with a picture ID in order to make the name change.

6. ***The offender is in prison and I have received a restitution check. How can this be?***

Some qualified inmates in the South Carolina Department of Corrections are in a work program. If the inmate owes restitution, for as long as they are in a work program, restitution payments will be forwarded to SCDPPPS for posting and disbursement to victims. If the inmate is terminated from the program for whatever reason, restitution payments will stop.

7. ***The offender is supposed to be making a payment every month and I have not received any money in a while. What should I do?***

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and inquire as to the status of the offender.



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### 8. *I was court ordered to receive restitution under my business however, my business is now closed. What should I do?*

Contact the Probation and Parole office in the county where the offender is being supervised and advise them. Documents will be requested to provide ownership of the business and proof that the business is closed. In addition, you will need proof of who now is authorized to be the recipient of the restitution.

### 9. *I understand that a Civil Judgment has been filed on my behalf as a victim. What does this mean?*

Civil Judgments are filed on behalf of victims who are still due restitution at the end of an offender's supervision period. SCDPPPS will file a civil judgment with the Clerk of Court of the county of conviction for the unpaid balance due. There is no guarantee that the civil judgment will ever be satisfied.

### 10. *What happens to restitution for a deceased victim?*

When SCDPPPS is notified that a victim is now deceased, a payment 'hold' is placed on the account. The next of kin must provide SCDPPPS with original documents with proof of death and who is the representative of the Estate. All checks will be issued to the Estate. In the event that a victim does not have a Will, the next of kin must still provide legal original documents of death and must contact Probate Court for instructions.