

# APPLICATION FOR ACCESS TO C.O.R.I. DOCUMENTS

The **Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Law (M.G.L. c.6, s.178A)** mandates that victims, witnesses, family members of homicide victims, and parents/guardians of minor aged victims (as defined by the Victim Rights Law, M.G.L. c.258B) shall, upon request, be certified to receive CORI from criminal justice agencies regarding the criminal case which pertains to them.

In addition, criminal justice agencies may also, in their discretion, disclose CORI relating to other offenses committed by the offender. They may also disclose an offender's **evaluative (mental health) and intelligence (Investigative) Information** which is not considered to be CORI. The criminal justice agency may disclose this discretionary information if they deem it necessary for the security and well being of the "178A certified person."

**CORI** is certain documentation and information held by criminal justice agencies regarding an offender's crime, arrest, prosecution, conviction, incarceration, probation and parole.

**\*\*Applicants must provide criminal justice documentation to verify their eligibility status to receive CORI under M.G.L. c.6, s.178A.** Documentation can include, but is not limited to, a brief statement from the victim witness advocate/prosecutor involved in the case, copies of any documents or letters issued by the court or District Attorney's Office, and police reports.

### OFFENDER INFORMATION

Name:	DOB:	Social Security #:
*Date of Crime:	Charges:	
Docket #:	Probation Central File #:	
Sentence:		Date of Sentence:

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:	DOB:	Social Security #:
Mailing Address:	City:	State:      Zip:
Home Phone: (    )		Business/Other Phone: (    )
Victim's Name (if not applicant)	DOB:	Relationship to Victim

### YOU ARE APPLYING AS:

Victim    Witness    Family member of homicide victim    Parent/Guardian of minor aged victim

Do you want to receive a copy of the offender's criminal record?   YES   NO

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim Witness Advocate: \_\_\_\_\_ Court: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Criminal History Systems Board**  
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(Revised 10/02)

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## ACCESS TO CORI DOCUMENTS "178A" CERTIFICATION

The Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Law (M.G.L. c.6, s.178A) mandates that victims, witnesses, family members of homicide victims, and parents/guardians of minor aged victims (as defined by the Victim Rights Law, M.G.L. c.258B) shall, upon request, be certified to receive CORI from criminal justice agencies regarding the criminal case which pertains to them.

Under this certification, criminal justice agencies may, in their discretion, disclose CORI relating to other offenses committed by the offender. They may also disclose an offender's evaluative (mental health) and intelligence (investigative) information which is not considered to be CORI. The criminal justice agency may disclose this information if they deem it necessary for the security and well being of the "178A certified person."

*CORI (C.O.R.I.)* is certain documentation and information held by criminal justice agencies regarding an offender's crime, arrest, prosecution, conviction, incarceration, probation or parole.

Upon "178A" certification, *C.O.R.I.* can be obtained from criminal justice agencies including, but not limited to, Police Departments, District Attorney's Offices, Attorney General's Office, Probation Depts., Clerks of Courts, Mass. Department of Correction, Houses of Corrections operated by the county Sheriff's Departments, Mass. Parole Board, and the Criminal History Systems Board.

\*\*Applicants must provide criminal justice documentation to verify their eligibility status to receive CORI under M.G.L. c.6 s.178A. Documentation can include, but is not limited to, a brief statement from the victim witness advocate/prosecutor involved in the case, copies of any documents or letters issued by the court or District Attorney's Office, copies of a certification letter to receive notice of an offender's impending release, and police reports.

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### "178A" SUMMARY

#### ***MANDATORY RELEASE OF C.O.R.I. UNDER "178A"***

Criminal justice agencies must release C.O.R.I. regarding the criminal case that pertains to the certified person upon their request.

#### ***DISCRETIONARY RELEASE OF C.O.R.I. UNDER "178A"***

Criminal justice agencies may, *in their discretion*, release C.O.R.I. relating to *other* offenses committed by the offender as well as the offender's *evaluative or intelligence* information.

#### ***CASE EXAMPLE***

A male offender, as part of his sentence, is ordered to attend a batterer's treatment program. The identified victim becomes certified under "178A." She wants to know if the offender is attending the batterer's treatment program and if he is acknowledging his abusive behavior.

The Probation Dept. is mandated to tell the victim, as it is C.O.R.I., if the offender is attending the batterer's treatment program. It is discretionary for the Probation Dept. to tell the victim if the offender is acknowledging his abusive behavior or to release any evaluative reports issued by the offender's therapist to the Probation Department.

(Revised 9/95)