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21st May, 1998

Dear Lord Alderdice,

In response to your recent inquiry I am informed by the Home Office (Procedures and Victims Unit) that there is no statutory provision requiring victims of violent crimes to be informed of the release from prison of their assailants. However, from 1990 there has been in place the Home Office Victims' Charter (copy enclosed) which sets out the sort of service victims of crime should expect. Information about the release of offenders is dealt with at pp. 3 and 12.

Yours sincerely,

G. R. Dymond
Research Services and
Legal Information Librarian

The Lord Alderdice,