Due to the overwhelming outrage from surviving family members in response to legislation calling for parole eligibility of inmates serving life sentences for First Degree Murder, OVA made the swift decision not to support parole eligibility for these convictions.

In order to best represent the community of victims of Second Degree Murder, a survey was mailed to registered survivors in January 2019. A separate data analysis team provided the analytics back to our office. Below is the summary.

91% Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed with parole eligibility

Believe, if paroled, the offender should be supervised at the highest level 100%
Believe, if paroled, the offender should show remorse for their crime 100%

Of the 8% in favor of parole, eligibility for parole is only acceptable after serving...

47% 40+ years
"I’d rather no parole be offered but I am trying to be more humane than he was."

21% 25 - 40 years
"If he is highly supervised, is remorseful... This is a hard call."

26% 15 - 25 years
"My feelings [here] do not apply to all... I feel this boy [acted] faster than he thought out."

5% 10 - 15 years
no comments given

Victims should be provided information on what the offender has been doing while in prison.

2% Disagree
6% Strongly Disagree
7% Neutral
8% Agree
77% Strongly Agree
The Survey Respondants

"Every year since 2004, that senseless violent killing has effected my entire family tremendously. The life sentence that was given should be enforced completely.”

"I don’t care how good this person is in prison. He might not have the best life, but he is alive which is more than you can say about the victims.”

"As a Correctional Officer and a victim of a lifer, I would be more than happy to testify at any hearings connected to this bill. Due to my injury on the job, this offender also has attacked at least two other officers after he attacked me.”

"This is a case where the inmate stalked, kidnapped and murdered my daughter. He admitted to the murder and would only tell where her body was if the death penalty was off the table.”

The offender in my case was the primary perpetrator.

Includes
• Accomplice
• Co-conspirator
• Look out
• Getaway Driver
• Other

How involved would you want to be if the offender in your case becomes parole eligible?

Neutral 1%
Somewhat Involved 4%
Not Involved At All 6%
Involved 13%
Completely Involved 77%