

## SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE OPTIONS

VICTIM  
ADVOCACY

REPORTING  
OPTIONS

REPORTING  
PROCEDURES

INVESTIGATION

PROSECUTION

## VICTIM ADVOCACY

- Law enforcement officers will offer every person reporting assistance in locating sexual assault advocacy services. Written material will be provided.
- A victim or other reporting party may provide as much, or as little, information as they choose with no time limitations or restrictions on when the information is given to law enforcement. For example, information obtained on an incident outside the current statute of limitations will be documented and used as the law allows to assist in other investigations.
- A victim may be accompanied by the Campus Victim Advocate or other appropriate support person during all phases of the reporting process and criminal investigation.

## REPORTING OPTIONS

- A victim or other reporting party may remain anonymous and still have the information they provide documented by a law enforcement agency.
- A victim or other reporting party may have questions answered regarding their options for reporting and/or a criminal investigation prior to providing any personal identifying or incident information to law enforcement.
- A clear explanation of the reporting process and/or investigative procedures will be provided by a law enforcement officer if requested by the victim.
- When making a report there is no requirement to meet in person with a law enforcement officer. For example, a victim or other reporting party may report using an online form or a victim may choose to have a sexual assault advocate report on their behalf.
- Reasonable efforts will be made to allow the victim or other reporting party control over the location, time and date where their initial report is made to law enforcement.
- A victim of sexual assault is offered three options for reporting:
  - Report information only,
  - Investigate the case, and
  - Request Prosecution.

## REPORTING PROCEDURES

- A victim, or other reporting party, may end an interview with law enforcement at any time without having to provide a reason.
- After making a report, a victim or other reporting party will not be pressured to participate in a criminal investigation.
- Reasonable efforts will be made to meet the needs of the victim and address any barriers the victim faces in providing information to law enforcement during the reporting process.
- Law enforcement officers will conduct victim interviews in a trauma-informed manner.

## INVESTIGATION

- Reasonable efforts will be made to meet the needs of the victim and address any barriers the victim faces in providing information to law enforcement during the investigation.
- A victim's right to keep their assault private will be respected. It is legally permissible and appropriate that the University Title IX Coordinator and Campus Victim Advocate be notified about the incident. No other persons will be notified outside of law enforcement without the victim's consent. This includes the interviewing of identified witnesses and perpetrators.
- Investigators will utilize strategies to identify and document serial sexual perpetration.

## PROSECUTION

- Criminal investigations will be conducted at a pace set by the victim, not the law enforcement officer. Victims will be informed that no case can proceed to the referral to the Prosecutor's Office until the investigative process is complete.
- A victim may disengage from a criminal investigation at any time prior to an arrest being made or the case being referred to the Prosecutor's Office. There is no requirement that an explanation be given by the victim to law enforcement.
- No arrest or referral to the Prosecutor's Office will occur without the consent of the victim. We respect the choice of every victim who reports a sexual assault and understand that justice is not the same for every person who is victimized.
- Criminal investigations that do not result in arrest or referral to the Prosecutor's Office, unless found baseless or false, may be re-opened in the future at a victim's request and/or if additional information is discovered.