



Reporting to Law Enforcement

Reporting to law enforcement is one option for survivors of sexual violence, domestic violence and stalking. Here is some information on reporting to law enforcement:

1. Contact the police in the municipality where the incident took place. Jurisdiction to investigate belongs to the municipality where a crime occurred. If the exact location is unknown, survivors can contact the local police for where they believe the crime occurred to start the process.
2. Rutgers University Police Department can be notified if the crime occurred on campus. The Rutgers University Police Department will assist survivors who are unsure of where to report the crime to.
3. A patrol officer is generally the first to respond. A trained investigator will be responsible for looking into the case. Police may interview the survivor, collect evidence from the crime scene (when applicable), receive the evidence obtained at the hospital (when applicable), take a formal statement, and protect the survivor's anonymity.
4. The survivor is entitled to request the presence of a Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate during all medical and law enforcement procedures. Survivors can call VPVA to request a confidential advocate.
5. During the interview, survivors will be asked about the following information
 - Events prior to the initial contact with the assailant
 - A detailed account of the behavior and words used by the survivor and the assailant
 - A detailed account of the assault and a description of the assailant
 - Other information that may be important for the investigation

Investigators from the County Prosecutor's Office may become involved if the case moves forward with an investigation. Here is some additional information about the process:

- Sexual assault is a crime that is prosecuted by the state. The survivor is assigned an attorney from the Prosecutor's office in the county where the assault took place. This person is usually part of a special sex crimes unit.
- Once the police finish their investigation, all evidence is turned over to the Prosecutor's Office, where it's reviewed. The Sex Crimes Unit of the Prosecutor's Office will then make decisions regarding the case.
- The survivor becomes a witness if the case moves forward.
- There are several levels of the prosecution process including issuance of a warrant, arrest, arraignment, grand jury and the trial. Some steps require the survivor's presence in court. If you have concerns or questions regarding this you can contact VPVA for assistance.

**Camden RUPD non-emergency
856-225-6111**

**Office of Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance
856-225-2326**