

## **Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act (SASETA)**

The Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act, often referred to as SASETA, is an Illinois law governing the health care and evidence collection procedures for hospitals responding to sexual assault survivors. SASETA mandates that all hospitals must help sexual assault survivors in accordance with the following guidelines:

### **Services**

- Mandated to offer Evidence Collection Kits if requested up to 7 days after an assault
  - However, evidence collection kits can be offered and completed any time following an assault if requested OR can offer and perform applicable parts
- Private exam room.
- Appropriate medical exams to ensure health, safety, and welfare (or which may be used as evidence)
- Oral and written information regarding infection, STIs and pregnancy.
- Oral and written information regarding procedures and medication for prevention of infection or disease.
- An amount of medication for treatment at the hospital visit and after discharge, as deemed appropriate by the attending healthcare professional and consistent with the hospital's current approved protocol for sexual assault survivors.
- Evaluation of the survivor's risk of contracting human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) from the sexual assault and initial dose or doses of HIV prophylaxis if deemed appropriate.
- Referral for appropriate counseling.
- Medically and factually accurate oral and written information about emergency contraception.
- Indications, counter-indications, and risks of using emergency contraception.
- Description of how and when survivors may be provided emergency contraception.
- Follow-up healthcare after the emergency department visit including:
  - One or more office visits with physician, advance practice nurse, or physician assistant within 180 days after an initial visit for hospital emergency services.
  - Laboratory tests to determine the presence or absence of sexually transmitted disease.
  - Appropriate medications, including HIV prophylaxis.

**Evidence Collection Program administered by Illinois State Police, who facilitate the following:**

- Distribution of kits.
- Collection of kits from hospitals.
- Analysis of the collected evidence and conducting laboratory tests.
- Maintenance of chain of custody and safekeeping of evidence.

**Payment For Healthcare Services**

The survivor should never receive a bill for any services provided in the emergency department or follow-up healthcare services. If the survivor has health insurance, the healthcare provider will first attempt to collect payment from them. It is the responsibility of the healthcare provider to bill the Illinois Sexual Assault Emergency Treatment Program under the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, rather than the uninsured survivor, for healthcare services and follow-up healthcare services. The entities eligible for reimbursement include hospitals and ambulance providers for emergency treatment and follow-up healthcare providers (hospitals or healthcare professionals), pharmacies, and laboratories.

- Sexual assault survivor who is not primary policy holder for health insurance may opt out of billing private insurance.
- When a survivor opts out, bill is sent to DHFS Sexual Assault Emergency Treatment Program for reimbursement (1/1/23)

**Crime Victims Compensation:**

Illinois Attorney General Crime Victim Services Division  
100 W. Randolph Street, 13th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601 800-228-3368  
[www.ag.state.il.us/victims/cvc.html](http://www.ag.state.il.us/victims/cvc.html)

**Billing Under SASETA:**

IL Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services Illinois Sexual Assault Program  
P.O. Box 19129 Springfield, IL 62794  
Stephanie Ray: 217-782-3303  
[HFS.ISAETP@illinois.gov](mailto:HFS.ISAETP@illinois.gov)









**LISA MADIGAN**  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

For more information about Crime Victim Rights in Illinois, please contact:

**Office of the Illinois Attorney General**  
Crime Victim Services Division  
100 W. Randolph Street, 13th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
1-800-228-3368 (Voice/TTY)  
312-814-7105 (Fax)  
[www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims](http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims)

**Automated Victim Notification (AVN) System**  
1-866-5-NOTIFY (1-866-566-8439)  
1-877-502-2423 (TTY)  
[www.vinmlink.com](http://www.vinmlink.com)

**Illinois Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit**  
1-877-776-0755  
1-800-546-0844 (TTY)  
[www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/vicservices/](http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/vicservices/)

**Prisoner Review Board**  
1-800-801-9110  
217-782-1617 (TTY)  
[www.state.il.us/prb](http://www.state.il.us/prb)

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*Justice for Victims.  
Justice for All.*

“Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

“Where a specific duty is assigned by law, and individual rights depend upon performance of that duty, it seems equally clear, that the individual who considers himself injured, has a right to resort to the laws of his country for a remedy.”

Chief Justice John Marshall  
*Marbury v. Madison* (1803)

**CRIME  
VICTIM  
RIGHTS**  
*in Illinois*



**LISA MADIGAN**  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

## WHEN YOU REPORT A VIOLENT CRIME

### You have the right to:

- File a claim for financial assistance under the Illinois Crime Victims Compensation Act (see [www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvc.html](http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvc.html) or call 1-800-228-3368).
- Ask police for information about the status of the investigation.

## AFTER THE OFFENDER IS CHARGED

### Talk to the prosecutor about asserting these rights:

#### General Rights

- Right to a statement and explanation of your rights as a crime victim
- Right to prompt disposition after the arrest of the accused
- Right to information about the indictment or juvenile delinquency petition

#### Right to be Notified

- Right to notice of the date, time, and place of the trial \*
- Right to advance notice of all court proceedings and cancellation of court proceedings
- Right to information on social services, financial assistance, and employer intervention
- Right to notice of the release of the defendant \*
- Right to notice of the final case disposition

#### Right to Participate in Prosecution

- Right to be present at all court proceedings
- Right to be present at trial, unless the court determines that your testimony will be affected if you hear the testimony of other witnesses
- Right to have a translator present at all court proceedings
- Right to bring an advocate or support person to all court proceedings, subject to the Rules of Evidence
- Right to retain an attorney
- Right to consultation with the prosecution and consideration of a Victim Impact Statement before plea offer or negotiation
- Right to a non-technical explanation of the plea or verdict
- Right to provide a written or oral Victim Impact Statement at the sentencing hearing
- Right to have your Victim Impact Statement sent to the Prisoner Review Board

#### Right to Protection from Harm

- Right to a secure waiting area during court proceedings, if possible
- Right to have victim advocate personnel help to ensure that your employers cooperate to minimize your loss of pay and benefits resulting from court appearances

#### Right to Restitution

- Right to request the court to order the defendant to pay restitution to cover losses incurred by you (does not cover pain and suffering)
- Right to the prompt return of stolen property

## AFTER THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED

### Talk to the prosecutor about asserting this right:

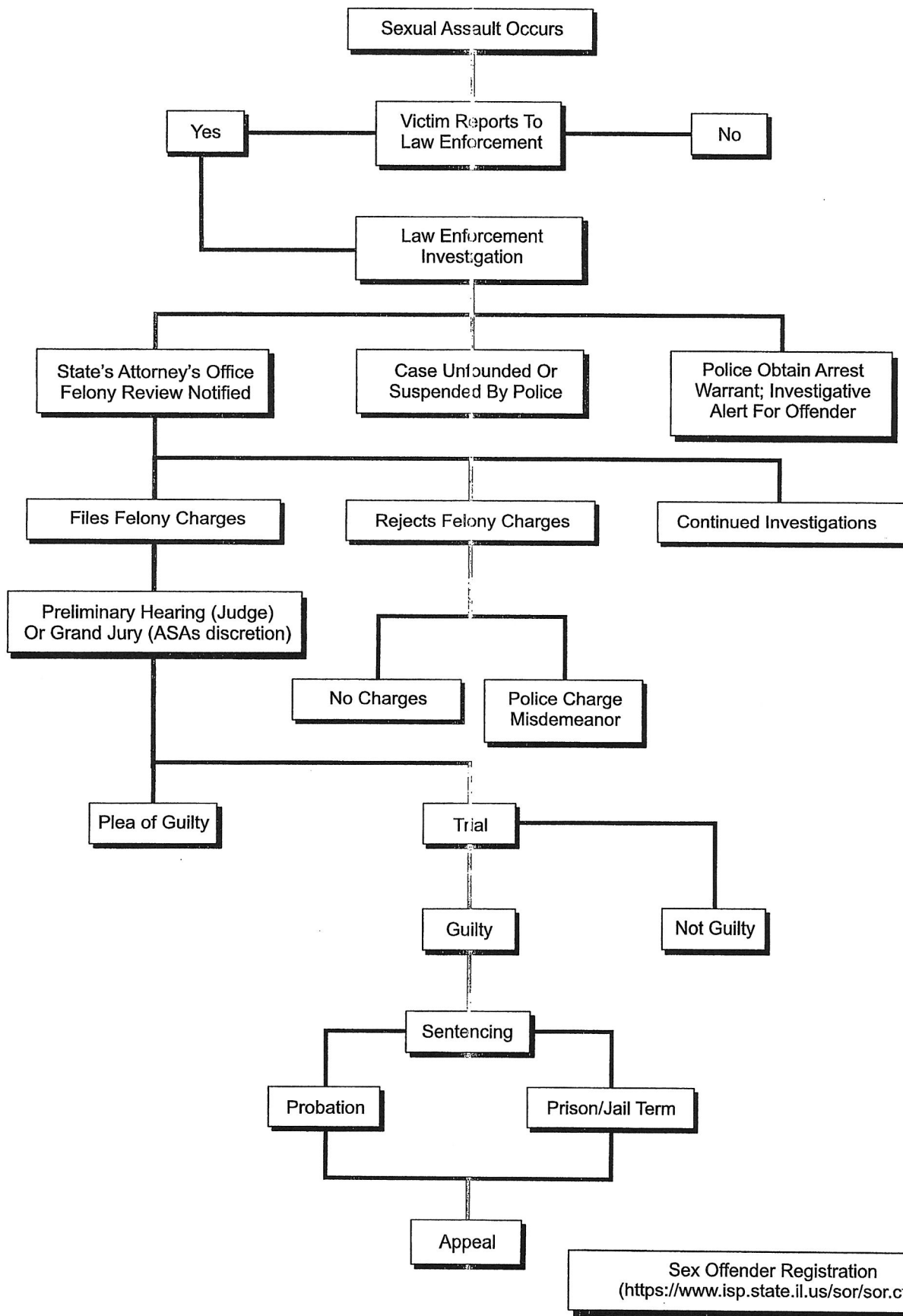
- Right to notice of an appeal or any post-conviction petition by the defendant.

### Talk to the Prisoner Review Board about asserting these rights:

- Right to notice of the prisoner's release or discharge \*
- Right to a recent photo of the defendant convicted of a felony, upon the defendant's release
- Right to advance notice of the defendant's furlough dates and times
- Right to notice of any escape or reaprehension of the prisoner \*
- Right to advance notice of the parole hearing
- Right to provide a statement or attend the parole hearing
- Right to notice after the prisoner's request for parole has been granted
- Right to notice of the death of the prisoner \*
- Right to notice of the prisoner's request for executive clemency

\* To assert your rights to information about the offender's custodial status, please contact the Automated Victim Notification System at 1-866-566-8439 or 1-877-502-2423 (TTY), or visit [www.vinmlink.com](http://www.vinmlink.com).

# SEXUAL ASSAULT CRIMINAL FLOW CHART



Sex Offender Registration  
(<https://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/sor.cfm>)



## HANDOUT

### SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS CHART

STI	What to Watch For	How You Get It	If Not Treated ...
Chlamydia (or NGU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms show up 7-21 days after having sex with an infected person.</li> <li>• Most women and some men have no symptoms.</li> <li>• <b>Women:</b> discharge from the vagina; bleeding from the vagina between periods; burning or pain when you urinate; pain in abdomen, sometimes with fever and nausea.</li> <li>• <b>Men:</b> watery, white or yellow drip from the penis; burning or pain when you urinate.</li> </ul>	Chlamydia (or NGU) is spread during vaginal, anal, and oral sex with someone who is infected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Chlamydia to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• The infection can become more serious, causing damage to reproductive organs.</li> <li>• Both men and women may no longer be able to have children, if infection worsens.</li> <li>• A mother with Chlamydia can give it to her baby during childbirth.</li> </ul>
Genital Warts (HPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms can appear 1-8 months after having sex with an infected person.</li> <li>• Small, bumpy warts on the sex organs and anus.</li> <li>• The warts do not go away.</li> <li>• Itching and burning around the sex organs.</li> <li>• After warts go away, the virus stays in the body, and warts can return.</li> </ul>	Genital Warts (HPV) is spread during vaginal, anal, and oral sex with someone who has genital warts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give genital warts to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• Warts cannot be cured.</li> <li>• More warts grow and are harder to get rid of.</li> <li>• A mother with warts can give them to her baby during childbirth.</li> <li>• Warts may lead to a pre-cancerous condition, especially in women.</li> </ul>
Gonorrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms may show up 2-21 days after having sex.</li> <li>• Most women and some men have no symptoms.</li> <li>• <b>Women:</b> thick, yellow or white discharge from the vagina; burning or pain when you urinate or have a bowel movement; abnormal periods or bleeding between periods; cramps and pain in the lower abdomen.</li> <li>• <b>Men:</b> thick, yellow or white drip from the penis; burning or pain when you urinate or have a bowel movement; need to urinate more often.</li> </ul>	Gonorrhea is spread during vaginal, anal, and oral sex with someone who is infected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Gonorrhea to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• The infection can become more serious, causing damage to reproductive organs.</li> <li>• Both men and women may no longer be able to have children.</li> <li>• A mother with Gonorrhea can give it to her baby during childbirth.</li> <li>• If untreated, may lead to heart trouble, skin disease, arthritis, and blindness.</li> </ul>
Hepatitis B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms show up 1-9 months after having sex with an infected person.</li> <li>• Many people show no symptoms, or have mild ones.</li> <li>• Flu-like feeling that does not go away.</li> <li>• Tiredness</li> <li>• Jaundice (yellow skin)</li> <li>• Dark urine, light-colored bowel movements.</li> </ul>	Hepatitis B is spread during vaginal, anal, or oral sex with an infected person. Also spread by sharing needles (to inject drugs, or for any other reason) with an infected person. Can also be spread by direct contact with infected blood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Hepatitis B to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• Some people never completely recover.</li> <li>• Some people cannot be cured. Symptoms go away, but they can still spread Hepatitis B to others.</li> <li>• The infection can cause liver damage.</li> <li>• A mother with Hepatitis B can give it to her baby during childbirth.</li> </ul>

<b>STI</b>	<b>What to Watch For</b>	<b>How You Get It</b>	<b>If Not Treated ...</b>
Herpes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms show up 1-30 days after having sex with an infected person.</li> <li>• Some people have no symptoms, others flu-like feelings.</li> <li>• Small, painful blisters on the sex organs or mouth.</li> <li>• Blisters last 1-3 weeks.</li> <li>• Blisters go away, but you can still have herpes, and blisters can return.</li> </ul>	Herpes is spread during vaginal, anal, and oral sex with an infected person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Herpes to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• Herpes cannot be cured.</li> <li>• A mother with Herpes can give it to her baby during childbirth.</li> </ul>
HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms show up several months to several years after contact with someone infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.</li> <li>• Can be present for many years with no symptoms.</li> <li>• Unexplained weight loss or tiredness.</li> </ul>	HIV/AIDS is spread by contact with infected bodily fluids, including during vaginal, anal, and oral sex, and by sharing needles with an infected person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give HIV to your sexual partner(s), or anyone you share needles with.</li> <li>• HIV cannot be cured. Most people die from the disease.</li> <li>• A mother with HIV can give it to her baby in the womb, during childbirth, or while breastfeeding.</li> </ul>
Syphilis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> stage: symptoms show up 3-12 weeks after having sex with an infected person: a painless, reddish-brown sore or sores on the mouth, sex organs, breasts or fingers; sores last 1-5 weeks, sores go away, the Syphilis does not.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> stage: symptoms show up 1 week to 6 months after the sores heal: rash over entire body; flu-like feelings; rash and flu-like feelings go away, the Syphilis does not.</li> </ul>	Syphilis is spread during vaginal, anal and oral sex with someone who has Syphilis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Syphilis to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• A mother with Syphilis can give it to her baby during childbirth, or have a miscarriage.</li> <li>• The infection can cause heart disease, brain damage, blindness, and death.</li> </ul>
Vaginitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some women have no symptoms.</li> <li>• Itching, burning, or pain in the vagina.</li> <li>• More discharge from the vagina than normal.</li> <li>• Discharge smells and/or looks different.</li> </ul>	Vaginitis is spread during vaginal, anal, and oral sex. Men can carry Vaginitis infections without symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can give Vaginitis infections to your sexual partner(s).</li> <li>• Uncomfortable symptoms will continue.</li> <li>• Men can get infections in the penis, prostate gland, or urethra.</li> </ul>

(Borrowed from Planned Parenthood of East Central Illinois, ppeci.org.)



# KNOW YOUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The following information is intended to answer questions about your legal rights. You should talk to a health care provider about questions regarding your reproductive health, including whether and when you can terminate your pregnancy.

Exercise caution when speaking with a new health care provider or searching online for health information. Do not share your personal health information except with a trusted provider. This document was last updated June 24th, 2022.

## DOES ILLINOIS LAW PROTECT MY RIGHT TO AN ABORTION?

Yes. Illinois law protects your right to have an abortion and treats abortion like other kinds of health care. You are entitled to this right regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, race, ethnicity, disability status, or any other protected characteristic.

## DOES THE U.S. SUPREME COURT OVERTURNING ROE V. WADE MEAN ABORTIONS ARE ILLEGAL?

No, not in Illinois. On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court said that the U.S. Constitution does not include a right to abortion. But Illinois law separately protects the right to abortion.

## CAN I GET A PRESCRIPTION FOR ABORTION MEDICATION ONLINE IN ILLINOIS?

Yes. In Illinois, you can get a prescription for medication abortion through an online telehealth appointment with a medical provider and have the medication sent to you by mail. Providers who offer medication abortion generally do so up to around 10-11 weeks of pregnancy.

## WILL MY HEALTH INSURANCE COVER AN ABORTION?

Maybe. If you have insurance with pregnancy benefits, then it likely also covers care related to terminating your pregnancy. Illinois Medicaid and most Illinois-based private health insurers cover abortion in policies that include pregnancy-related care. Contact your insurance provider for your policy information.

## DOES ILLINOIS LAW PROTECT MY RIGHT TO RECEIVE OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE?

Yes. The State cannot interfere with your decisions regarding reproductive care, including whether or not to use birth control, how to manage a pregnancy loss, and decisions about giving birth like whether to have caesarean surgery or epidural anesthesia.

## ARE THERE LIMITS ON WHEN A PROVIDER CAN GIVE ME AN ABORTION?

Talk to your provider. Illinois law does not set a specific time limit. Health care providers perform abortions until "viability," which is determined by your individual circumstances. In some situations, a provider could determine that viability exists around 24-28 weeks into pregnancy. Even if your provider determines that your pregnancy has reached viability, you may be able to have an abortion if your provider thinks it is necessary for your health.

## DO I HAVE TO BE A RESIDENT OF ILLINOIS TO RECEIVE AN ABORTION IN ILLINOIS?

No. Residents of other states may receive health care in Illinois, including abortion and other reproductive care. However, Illinois does not regulate how out-of-state insurance plans provide coverage, so you should speak to your insurer and health care provider to understand your payment options.

## I'M UNDER 18 YEARS OLD; CAN I GET AN ABORTION?

Yes. Illinois protects your right to an abortion too.









## The Crime Victims Compensation Program Fact Sheet

The Crime Victims Compensation Program provides financial reimbursement to victims of violent crime who meet certain eligibility requirements. The program is governed by the Crime Victims Compensation Act, 740 ILCS 45/1 et seq.

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### Who is a victim?

- Person killed or injured in Illinois
- Parent, spouse or child of a person killed or injured in Illinois
- Person killed or injured while attempting to aid a victim
- Person killed or injured in Illinois while assisting law enforcement
- Personal witness to a crime
- Person called as a witness by the prosecution to establish a nexus
- An Illinois resident injured in a country without a Compensation Program
- Person under the age of 18 who is the brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister of a person killed or injured in Illinois (For the purposes of counseling expenses only)

### Who is eligible for compensation?

- Statutorily Defined Victims (see above)
- Dependents (for loss of support only)
- Any person that paid or became obligated to pay for the victim's expenses

### What violent crimes are compensable with the program?

Arson • Homicide • Assault • Human Trafficking • Battery • Involuntary Manslaughter • Child Pornography • Kidnapping • Criminal Sexual Abuse • Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Peace Officer • Criminal Sexual Assault • Non-consensual Dissemination of Private Sexual Images • Desecration or Removal of Human Remains • Reckless Conduct • Dismembering of a Human Body • Stalking • Domestic Battery • Posting of Identifying or Graphic Information on Pornographic Internet Sites • Driving While Under the Influence • Exploitation of a Child • Violations of Protective Orders (Domestic Violence Orders of Protection, Civil No Contact Orders, and Stalking No Contact Orders) • Hate Crimes • Hit and Run of a Pedestrian/Person • Operating Vehicle Moved Solely by Human Power or Using a Mobility Device

## Reimbursement is available for the following types of crime-related expenses:

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES		
Funeral and Burial (up to \$10,000)	Medical/Hospital/Dental	Tattoo Removal
Lost Wages (up to \$2,400)	Counseling and Transportation	Accessibility
Loss of Dependent Support (up to \$2,400)	Tuition Loss	Relocation
Crime Scene Cleanup	Replacement Costs	Replacement Service Loss

**EFFECTIVE August 7, 2022, the Total Maximum Award is \$45,000 per victim.**

### Where to Apply:

Applications are available to download at:

<https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvc.html>

or Can be Submitted Online:

<https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvonlineapplication.html>

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## Application Window

Status at Time of the Crime	Application Window
Adult without a disability	<b>Five years</b> from the date of the crime or one year from criminal charge for the offense.
Minor	<b>Three Years</b> from turning 18
Adult with disability	<b>Three Years</b> from the removal of the disability

Applications submitted outside the prescribed eligibility window may be accepted if the Attorney General determines that the applicant had good cause for a delay.

**WHEN IN DOUBT....APPLY!**

**For more information, contact the Crime Victims Assistance Line at  
1-800-228-3368.**

## May I get paid time-off under VESSA?

No. VESSA requires your boss to give you only unpaid time-off. You may either take time-off when you need it or ask for a reduced work schedule. You do not have to take vacation or sick time if you do not want to, and your employer is not allowed to make you take time-off, paid or unpaid.

## May I take VESSA leave for any reason?

No. You may take time-off only to deal with the domestic or sexual violence you experienced, for example:

- seeing a doctor or a counselor for physical or psychological injuries caused by domestic or sexual violence;
- getting help from a domestic violence shelter or rape-crisis organization;
- seeing a lawyer or going to court;
- securing your future safety by looking for a new place to live or relocating temporarily.

## What about my employment benefits?

Your employment status is “on hold” while you take VESSA leave. As long as you return when you are supposed to, your benefits should be the same as when you left. Your employer must continue to provide health insurance benefits while you are on leave.

## How do I file a VESSA claim?

Fill out a “**VESSA Complainant Contact Sheet**” and a “**VESSA Complaint Form.**”

Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL)  
160 North LaSalle Street, Suite C-1300  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone: (312) 793-6797  
<http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol/forms/PD/FS/vessa.pdf>

**If your claim is successful**, your employer may have to

- pay you to make up for lost wages or benefits;
- give you your job back if you were illegally fired;
- make workplace changes so you are safe;
- pay your costs for the lawsuit.

You may file a VESSA claim on your own, but it is a good idea to get a lawyer who knows about employment law and VESSA claims to help you. A lawyer can also figure out if there are other employment laws or workplace protections that can help you.

# The Victims’ Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) **A Guide to Employment Law Protections for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence**



Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

For more information, please contact  
Wendy Pollack, [wendypollack@povertylaw.org](mailto:wendypollack@povertylaw.org)  
312.263.2830, ext. 238

## What is VESSA?

VESSA became law in Illinois in August 2003. It helps survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their families get help without worrying about losing their jobs. Covered employers must post a notice that explains VESSA and its benefits.

## Who is covered by VESSA?

You are covered by VESSA if

- you are a victim of domestic or sexual violence, or you need to help a family or household member who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence;
- you are a full-time or part-time employee of a covered employer.

### Domestic Violence includes

- physical violence, such as shaking, slapping, kicking, or restraining;
- verbal violence, such as name calling or yelling;
- harassment at work, school, or home;
- threats to hurt you or your children.

The abuser is usually a former or current spouse or partner, or a member of your family or household.

### Sexual Violence includes

- rape;
- sexual assault;
- forced sex;
- child sexual abuse;
- uncomfortable or unwanted touching;
- stalking.

It doesn't matter if it was a stranger, a person you know, or a family member who hurt you.

## How does VESSA help?

VESSA protects you in two ways:

**1** It requires your employer to let you **take time-off** to deal with the problems you are having because of violence. During a 12-month period, you may take up to 12 workweeks of unpaid job-guaranteed time-off. You do not have to take the leave all at once; you may take time-off, as you need it.

**2** It prohibits employers and public agencies from discriminating or retaliating against you as a victim of domestic or sexual violence. For example, your boss is not allowed to fire you because you took time-off to go to court to get a protective order or because your abuser calls to harass you at work.

**VESSA does not protect you from** being fired or reprimanded for job performance problems not related to domestic or sexual violence, such as being late, taking personal phone calls unrelated to the violence, not doing your work properly, etc.

*You do not have to tell the police, file charges, or have an order of protection to take advantage of VESSA.*

Your employer is not allowed to tell you to get a police report or a court order before you may take VESSA leave.

## Is my employer covered by VESSA?

VESSA covers all employers who have an employee in Illinois and who are

- the State or any agency of the State;
- any local government or a local school district;
- a private company with at least 50 employees. Not all of the employees have to be employed in the same workplace or even in Illinois. Also, if your employer no longer has 50 employees but had at any time in the past year, VESSA may still apply.

## What do I need to do to get VESSA leave?

You must tell your employer that you need time-off because of domestic or sexual violence. **If possible, you must tell your employer 48 hours before you need time-off.**

**Your boss may ask you for proof.** This is called "certification." If asked, you should promptly give your employer a "sworn statement" (a written statement that you sign) saying that you are a victim of domestic or sexual violence.

Your employer must keep all this information **CONFIDENTIAL** unless you give your employer permission to share it or unless the law requires your employer to share the information.



## Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA)

### Required Posting for Employers

VESSA provides employees who are victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence, and employees who have a family or household member who is a victim of such violence, with unpaid, job-guaranteed leave; reasonable accommodations; and protections from discrimination and retaliation.

This time may be used if the employee or the employee's family or household member is:

- experiencing an incident of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence
- is recovering from the violence;
- is seeking or receiving medical help, legal assistance (including participation in legal proceedings), counseling, safety planning, or other assistance;
- temporarily or permanently relocating; or
- to take other actions to increase the safety of the victim from future domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence, or to ensure economic security.

**NOTICE** – Employees must provide the employer with at least 48 hours prior notice, unless providing advance notice is not practicable. If an employee is unable to provide advance notice, an employee must provide notice when an employee is able to do so, within a reasonable period of time after the absence.

**CERTIFICATION** – An employer may require the employee to provide certification of the domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence, and that leave is to address the violence. Certification may include a sworn statement of the employee and other documentation such as a letter from a victims' services organization, a court record, or any other corroborating evidence, but only if that documentation is in the possession of the employee. The employee may choose which documentation to submit. The employer may not require more than one document related to the same incident or perpetrator of violence in one year. All information related to domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence, is to be kept in the strictest confidence by the employer.

**DURATION OF LEAVE** – VESSA provides that employees working for an employer with at least 1 employee, but no more than 14 employees, are entitled to a total of 4 workweeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period. Employees working for an employer with at least 15, but no more than 49 employees, are entitled to a total of 8 workweeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period. And employees working for an employer with at least 50 employees are entitled to a total of 12 workweeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period.

#### Leave permitted during a 12-month period under the act based on number of employees:

Number of employees	Leave permitted
1-14 employees	4 weeks
15-49 employees	8 weeks
50 or more employees	12 weeks

Leave may be taken consecutively, intermittently, or on a reduced work schedule basis.

**For information on filing a complaint please call: 312-793-6797**

**or visit the website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/CONMED/Pages/vessa.aspx>**

**ACCOMMODATIONS** – VESSA provides that employees are entitled to reasonable accommodations to address the needs of the victim(s). Accommodations include, but are not limited to, an adjustment to the job structure, workplace facility, work requirements, or telephone number, seating assignment, or physical security of the work area.

**DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION** – VESSA prohibits employers from discriminating, retaliating, or otherwise treating an employee or job applicant unfavorably if the individual involved:

- Is or is perceived to be a victim of domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence;
- Attended, participated in, prepared for, or requested leave to attend, participate in, or prepare for a criminal or civil court or administrative proceeding relating to domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence;
- Requested or took VESSA leave for any reason;
- Requested an accommodation, regardless of whether the accommodation was granted;
- The workplace is disrupted or threatened by the action of a person whom the individual states has committed or threatened to commit domestic, sexual, or gender violence, or any other crime of violence, against the individual or the individual's family or household member; or
- Exercised any other rights under VESSA.

**labor.illinois.gov • DOL.Questions@Illinois.gov**

Lincoln Tower Plaza  
524 South 2nd Street, Suite 400  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
(217) 782-6206  
Fax: (217) 782-0596

Michael A Bilandic Building  
160 North LaSalle, Suite C-1300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3150  
(312) 793-2800  
Fax: (312) 793-5257

Regional Office Building  
2309 West Main Street, Suite 115  
Marion, Illinois 62959  
(618) 993-7090  
Fax: (618) 993-7258





A Message from Illinois Attorney General  
**KWAME RAOUL**




Stalking is a serious crime that presents unique challenges for the criminal justice system. A 2009 U.S. Department of Justice Study reported that 3.4 million people are stalked in the United States each year. And 76% of women who are murdered by their domestic abuser were stalked by that abuser prior to their death.

Under a new law that took effect on January 1, 2010, Illinois offers greater protection for stalking victims. Victims can now ask a court to issue a Stalking No Contact Order which will place specific restrictions on stalkers. This brochure provides additional information on Stalking No Contact Orders, as well as Sexual Assault Civil No Contact Orders and Domestic Violence Orders of Protection.

Illinois law now also makes it easier to prosecute cases of stalking by recognizing that stalking does not always involve specific threats of harm. Additionally, the law now requires that in stalking prosecutions, the judge or jury must consider the stalker's behavior from the victim's perspective and experience.

If you are being stalked, I urge you to reach out for help. We all have the right to be safe.

  
Kwame Raoul  
Attorney General



**KWAME RAOUL**  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

For more information about how you can protect yourself through the Stalking or Sexual Assault Civil No Contact Orders, or through the Domestic Violence Order of Protection, please contact our Policy staff.

**CHICAGO**

100 West Randolph Street  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 814-3000  
TTY: (800) 964-3013

**SPRINGFIELD**

500 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 782-1090  
TTY: (877) 844-5461

**CARBONDALE**

601 South University Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 529-6400  
TTY: (877) 675-9339

[www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)

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This material is available in alternate format upon request.

# HOW ILLINOIS LAW CAN PROTECT YOU FROM STALKING

*Illinois Orders of  
Protection and  
No Contact Orders*

Stalking  
No Contact Order

Sexual Assault  
Civil No Contact Order

Domestic Violence  
Order of Protection



**KWAME RAOUL**  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

## Stalking No Contact Order

### *Who is eligible for these protections?*

Any person who is the victim of a course of conduct that causes the victim to fear for his or her safety or the safety of another person, or to suffer emotional distress, and relief is not available to the victim through the Illinois Domestic Violence Act or through a Sexual Assault Civil No Contact Order.

### *Remedies & Protections*

The judge can grant any or all of the following remedies:

- Prohibit further stalking or threats of stalking;
- Prohibit contact with the victim;
- Order stalker to stay away from specific locations;
- Prohibit stalker from having FOID card and owning firearms;
- Other injunctive relief necessary to protect the victim.

Attorneys' fees are the only financial remedy available.

### *Violations*

The first violation of a Stalking No Contact Order is a Class A misdemeanor. A subsequent violation is a Class 4 felony.

## Sexual Assault Civil No Contact Order

### *Who is eligible for these protections?*

Any person who is a victim of non-consensual sexual conduct or sexual penetration.

These orders also can protect the following people:

- Family or household members of a victim; and
- Rape crisis center employees and volunteers.

### *Remedies & Protections*

The judge can grant any or all of the following remedies:

- Prohibit contact with the victim;
- Order the offender to stay away from victim generally and/or to stay away from specific locations;
- Protection of property and pets;
- Order the offender to transfer to another school if the victim and offender attend the same school;
- Other injunctive relief necessary to protect the victim.

### *Violations*

The first violation of a Sexual Assault Civil No Contact Order is a Class A misdemeanor. A subsequent violation is a Class 4 felony.

## Domestic Violence Order of Protection

### *Who is eligible for these protections?*

Family or household members who:

- are related by blood, or by current or former marriage to the offender;
- share or shared a common home with the offender;
- have or allegedly have a child in common with the offender;
- share or allegedly share a blood relationship to the offender through a child;
- have or had a dating relationship or engagement with the offender; or
- are high risk adults with disabilities abused by a family member or caregiver.

### *Remedies & Protections*

The judge can grant up to 18 remedies, from prohibiting further abuse to ordering the offender to stay away, revoking a FOID card, protecting property and pets, requiring financial support, providing temporary care of children, and ordering exclusive possession of the home.

### *Violations*

The first violation of a Domestic Violence Order of Protection is a Class A misdemeanor. A subsequent violation or a violation following other domestic convictions is a Class 4 felony.





# Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Are Fair Housing Issues

Up to 3 million Americans, 85% of whom are women, are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner each year. Many sexual assault victims know their accusers and the assaults often occur in their homes. Survivors may face a *credible imminent threat* of violence. A significant cause of homelessness in women results when landlords try to evict women from their homes after learning of the domestic violence, or when women leave their homes to escape their abuser.

## How the Federal Fair Housing Act Protects Victims of Domestic Violence

The Federal Fair Housing Act prohibits a landlord or housing provider from discriminating against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability. Because women have a greater risk of being the victim of domestic violence, the Federal Fair Housing Act protects women from housing discrimination based upon their gender when they are victims of domestic violence.

## Examples of Housing Discrimination Due to Domestic Violence

- A landlord or public housing authority tries to evict a woman when they learn she is the victim of domestic violence.
- After learning that a woman is a victim of domestic violence, a landlord applies new rules to her that are not applicable to other tenants.
- A landlord refuses to lease housing to a woman as a result of learning she has been the victim of domestic violence in the past.
- A public housing authority discovers a woman has called the police to her home to protect herself from domestic violence and terminates her housing voucher as a result.

## If You Experience Domestic Violence:

**First, call the police, 9-1-1.** An order of protection bars the abuser from the premises. Anyone can file an order of protection on behalf of an abused minor or adult who cannot file the order for themselves because of (*over*)

disability, age, health problems, or inaccessibility. In Illinois, same sex relationships are also covered by domestic violence law.

## **ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS FOR TENANTS**

### **Under the Illinois *Safe Homes Act*, effective as of January 2007:**

- You may break your lease because of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if you face a “credible imminent threat of harm on the premises,” even if the abuser is in the household. You must give the landlord *written notice* of the threat *within three days* of formally moving out.
- In an emergency, a landlord must change the locks within 48 hours of receiving your *written* request to keep out the abuser. This applies if you have a written lease and the abuser is not on the lease. You should include evidence of your claim. (Evidence can include police reports, court or medical records, or a statement from a victim services organization. This is not necessary if the violent act happened on site.)

### **Under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 2005:**

- Public housing authorities (PHA) cannot deny an apartment or Housing Choice (Section 8) Voucher to a survivor of domestic violence.
- The PHA or landlord may, but is not required to, evict or end housing assistance to the perpetrator of the violence. If requested, the tenant must provide the PHA or landlord with “certification” within 14 days of receiving the request. “Certification” must include the name of the offender. A landlord or PHA must keep your information confidential.
- Voucher recipients may “port” their voucher (move to another jurisdiction) to protect or keep themselves or a household member safe from domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking

## **IF YOU ARE AN IMMIGRANT**

If you meet certain legal criteria, VAWA allows immigrant women to legalize their immigration status in the family immigration system independent of their abusers.

**Contact *Interfaith Housing Center*** if you believe you are the victim of housing discrimination and want to understand more fully your rights. This service is *free and confidential*. Call 847-501-5760 (phone) or 847-501-2741 (TTY). [www.interfaithhousingcenter.org](http://www.interfaithhousingcenter.org)

**Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs** is the area’s premier advocate for fair and affordable housing, a non-for-profit, membership-based agency founded in 1972.

*Created by Interfaith Housing Center Staff 11/07.*

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# Illinois Crime Victims' *Bill of Rights*

The Illinois Constitution and Illinois statutes provide that victims of violent crime have the following rights:

- The right to be treated with fairness and respect for their dignity and privacy and to be free from harassment, intimidation and abuse throughout the criminal justice process.
- The right to notice of and to a hearing before a court ruling on a request for access to any of the victim's records, information or communications which are privileged or confidential by law.
- The right to timely notification of all court proceedings.
- The right to communicate with the prosecution.
- The right to be heard at any post-arraignment court proceeding in which a right of the victim is at issue and any court proceeding involving a post-arraignment release decision, plea or sentencing.
- The right to be notified of the conviction, sentence, imprisonment and release of the accused.
- The right to timely disposition of the case following the arrest of the accused.
- The right to be reasonably protected from the accused throughout the criminal justice process.
- The right to have the safety of the victim and the victim's family considered in denying or fixing the amount of bail, determining whether to release the defendant and setting conditions of release after arrest and conviction.
- The right to be present at the trial and all other court proceedings on the same basis as the accused, unless the victim is to testify and the court determines that the victim's testimony would be materially affected if the victim hears other testimony at the trial.
- The right to have present at all court proceedings, subject to the rules of evidence, an advocate and other support person of the victim's choice.
- The right to restitution.

*These rights apply in adult criminal proceedings and juvenile delinquency proceedings.*

*Violent crimes include homicide, felony assaults and batteries, kidnapping, sexual assault and abuse, arson, domestic battery, misdemeanors that result in death or great bodily harm, stalking, driving under the influence and violations of domestic violence orders of protection, civil no contact orders and stalking no contact orders.*

*The law requires that these rights must be requested in writing when charges have been filed against an offender. Contact the state's attorney's office prosecuting the case and complete a written "Notice of Victim's Assertion of Rights."*

*For more information, please contact your local state's attorney's office or the Attorney General's toll free Crime Victims Assistance Line.*

**Crime Victims Assistance Line**  
**1-800-228-3368**  
**1-877-398-1130 (TTY)**



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## RESOURCES

Illinois Attorney General's Office  
[www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)

Illinois Criminal Justice Authority  
[www.icjia.state.il.us](http://www.icjia.state.il.us)

Illinois Family Violence Council  
[www.ivpa.org](http://www.ivpa.org)

Illinois Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence  
[www.ilcadv.org](http://www.ilcadv.org)

Mothers Against Drunk Driving  
[www.madd.org](http://www.madd.org)

Parents of Murdered Children  
[www.pomc.com](http://www.pomc.com)

Alliance Against  
Intoxicated Motorists  
[www.aaim1.org](http://www.aaim1.org)

Illinois Coalition Against  
Sexual Assault  
[www.icasa.org](http://www.icasa.org)

Children's Advocacy Centers  
of Illinois  
[www.cacionline.org](http://www.cacionline.org)



## LISA MADIGAN ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

For more information, contact:

Office of the Illinois Attorney General  
Crime Victim Services Division  
100 W. Randolph Street, 13th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-814-2581 (Phone)  
312-814-7105 (Fax)

Crime Victims Assistance Line  
1-800-228-3368 (Voice/TTY)

[www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)

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This material is available in alternate format upon request.

## Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

### A Resource Guide to Help Victims Cope



## The Effects Of Crime

Crime has a devastating impact on its victims. Criminal victimization can cause both short-term and long-term stress reactions. While many people who experience long-term stress reactions continue to function, those who cannot may be suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

PTSD can appear at any age and occurs in survivors of crime—both direct victims and family members of victims. Victims will react differently depending on the type of violation endured and their personality, experiences, and support systems.

PTSD is the diagnosis mental health professionals apply to people who have suffered severe trauma in their lives and have developed certain symptoms as a result. Many, but not all, crime victims experience PTSD.

Being in crisis does not mean a victim of crime will develop PTSD. However, victims who do not have the opportunity to work through their experience and begin to heal are more likely to develop PTSD. When victims seek and receive appropriate crisis intervention and counseling, the chance of developing PTSD is reduced.

## Diagnosing PTSD

Victims who are diagnosed with PTSD persistently re-experience the traumatic event in at least one of the following ways:

- Recurrent, intrusive, and distressing recollections of the event, including images, thoughts, or perceptions.
- In children, repetitive play may occur in which themes or aspects of the trauma are expressed.
- Recurrent distressing dreams of the event during which the event is replayed.
- In children, there may be frightening dreams without recognizable content.
- Acting or feeling as if the traumatic event were recurring, including a sense of reliving the experience, illusions, hallucinations, and dissociative flashback episodes lasting from a few seconds to a number of hours.
- In children, trauma-specific re-enactment may occur.
- Intense psychological distress at exposure to internal or external cues that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event.
- Physiological reactivity upon exposure to triggers that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event.

## Recovering From Trauma

Not all victims will develop PTSD. If the trauma is dealt with quickly, the severity of reactions may be eased. A therapist or counselor can help victims restructure the fragments of their lives and accept some irrevocable changes brought about by the trauma.

Seek counseling if the following symptoms begin to cause stress or trouble:

- Rage, irritability, fear, sleeplessness, restlessness, hyper vigilance, cynicism, or suspicion of others.
- Extreme fatigue, severe depression, or inability to concentrate.
- Unwillingness to trust anyone, a wish to withdraw from everything.
- Significant increase/decrease in food consumption or use of sedatives/alcohol to cope with stress.







Date \_\_\_\_\_

Client I.D.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Victim  Significant Other

Contact Hours: \_\_\_\_\_  MA \_\_\_\_\_  CJS \_\_\_\_\_  IPC \_\_\_\_\_  PGC \_\_\_\_\_  CVJ

## Northwest CASA - INTAKE DATA ENTRY FORM

### CLIENT INFORMATION/DEMOGRAPHICS

**VICTIM/SIGNIFICANT OTHER RESIDENCY** (use to complete Location Tab in InfoNet)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

**Township:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Effective Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

OK to leave a message  Do **NOT** leave a message

(Required fields for InfoNet Database)

**Age (at first contact):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender Identity:** (Check only one)  Female  Male  Unknown  Not Reported: (Client declined)

Transgender Female (male to female): *Someone whose sex is or was male but identifies as female*

Transgender Male (female to male): *Someone whose sex is or was female but identifies as male*

Genderqueer/Gender Non-Conforming: *Someone who does not identify exclusively as male or female, somewhere in between or neither gender identity*

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Race/Ethnicity:** Check ALL that apply:

American Indian or Alaska Native

MENA (Middle Eastern North African)

Asian

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Black/African American

White

Hispanic/Latino

Unknown

**Sexual Orientation:** (Check only one)  Heterosexual/Straight  Homosexual/Gay/Lesbian  Bisexual

Queer: *Refers broadly to lesbians, gay, bisexual people and others who may not identify with the terms above but do identify with this term*

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Unknown Note: *If client uses the term "Questioning" to describe their sexual orientation, please use the "Other" category above and write in this term.*

Not Reported: (Client declined OR not collected)

**If significant other, significant other of:**  Adult Victim  Child Victim (age 17 and under)

**\*If significant other, relationship to victim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Health Insurance:**

- Medicaid/Cash Grant
- Medicaid/No Cash Grant
- Medicare
- Private
- None
- Not Reported
- Unknown

**Employment:**

- Full-Time
- Part-Time
- Not Employed
- Not Reported
- Unknown

**Education:**

- College Grad or More
- Some College
- High School Grad
- Less than High School (did not grad)
- Current K-12 Student
- Not of School Age
- Not Reported
- Unknown

**Marital Status:**

- Common Law Marriage
- Divorced
- Legally Separated
- Married
- Not Reported
- Single
- Unknown
- Widowed

**Pregnant:**

- No
- Yes
- Not Reported
- Unknown

**Current College/University Student:**

- Yes
- No

**PRESENTING ISSUES**

\*Primary presenting issue: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary offense date (or start of abuse): \_\_\_\_\_ End date of abuse: (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Primary offense location: \_\_\_\_\_ County of Victimization: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Other presenting issues: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERRAL**

\*Referral Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Referral Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**INCOME**

**Primary Income Source:**

- Employment
- General Assistance
- Social Security
- Alimony/Child Support
- TANF/AFDC
- SSI
- Unknown
- Not Reported
- Other Income \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Income Sources (check as many as applies):**

- Employment
- General Assistance
- Social Security
- Alimony/Child Support
- TANF/AFDC
- SSI
- Unknown
- Not Reported
- Other Income \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

**Special Needs:** (Indicate any physical or mental disability or difficulty identified by the client or his/her legal guardian)

- No Special Needs Indicated
- Requires wheelchair accessibility
- Has developmental disability, requires assistance
- Has hearing impairment, requires assistance
- Has a visual impairment, requires assistance
- Has Mental/emotional disability
- Has limited English proficiency, requires interpreter – Primary language: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other disability: \_\_\_\_\_
- Unknown
- Not Reported

*Complete medical, criminal justice and offender sections for victim clients only.*

**MEDICAL RESPONSE – if reported** (Please provide updates as received for Infonet data entry)

**Visited Medical Facility:**  Yes  No  Unknown  Not Reported      **Date of Visit:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Treated for Injuries:**  Yes  No  Unknown  Not Reported

**Seriousness of Injuries:**  Did not require hospital admission  Required hospital admission  
 Unknown

**Photos Taken:**  Yes  No  Unknown  Not Reported

**Medical Facility:**       Clinic  Emergency Room  ER Transfer  
 Other  Private Physician  Unknown  None

**Evidence Collection Kit Used:**  Yes  No  Unknown  Not Reported

**Treated by SANE:**  Yes  No  Unknown  Not Reported

**Hospital Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE- if reported** (Please provide updates as received for Infonet data entry)

**Reported to Police:**  Yes  No      **Date of Report:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Municipality:** \_\_\_\_\_      **Officer Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Patrol Interview:**  Yes  No      **Detective Interview:**  Yes  No

**State’s Attorney Interview:**  Yes  No

**State’s Attorney Victim/Witness Staff Participation:**  Yes  No  Not appropriate for services  
 Unknown

**Order of Protection:**  Civil  Criminal  None  Unknown

**Order of Protection Type:**  Emergency  Interim  Plenary  Unknown

**Civil No Contact Order:**  Criminal  Civil  Juvenile  Unknown

**Civil No Contact Order Type:**  Emergency  Plenary  Unknown

\* See Reference Chart for Choices

**OFFENDER**     **MULTIPLE OFFENDERS\***

**Sex:**     Male     Female     Unknown

**Offender ID** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Randomly generated in InfoNet)

**Race:**     Asian/Pacific Islander  
           Black  
           Hispanic/Latino  
           MENA (Middle Eastern North African)  
           Native American

White  
 Multiracial  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unknown

**Age at Victim Intake:** \_\_\_\_\_

(If you know the approximate age of the offender (i.e., between 20 and 30), enter the average age of this range – 25)

**County of Residence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Relationship to Victim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registered Sex Offender at time of Offense?**     Yes     No     Unknown     Not Reported

**Offender Arrested?**     Yes     No     Unknown     Not Reported

**Date of Arrest** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Police Charge:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICES REQUESTED (Check all that apply)**

- Sexual Assault Counseling
  - Individual     Group     Family
- Sexual Assault Therapy
  - Individual     Group     Family
- Medical Advocacy
- Legal or Court Advocacy
- Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Worker Completing Intake)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)





# Northwest CASA

## Consent for Advocacy Services

**This form is NOT intended as a waiver of my rape crisis privilege under 735 ILCS 5/8-802.1 and DOES NOT constitute a release of confidential communications between myself and Northwest CASA staff**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to have Northwest CASA through its staff and volunteers provide me with advocacy services.

- I understand that Northwest CASA staff will maintain my confidentiality under 735 ILCS 5/8-802.1\* while providing advocacy services.
- Except to the extent that advocacy services have already been provided, this consent for advocacy may be revoked by me at any time by notifying Northwest CASA in writing.
- I understand that Northwest CASA staff will need to disclose my full name and/or other personally identifying information\*\* that is protected by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, 42 U.S. Code § 13925(b)(2)\*\*\* in order to advocate on my behalf.

This form expires on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm. (Note: Expiration should meet your needs, is typically no longer than 15-30 days, but may be shorter or longer).

**For client 12 years of age or over:** I understand that this form is valid when I sign it and that I may withdraw my consent for advocacy services at any time either orally or in writing.

Signed (minor): \_\_\_\_\_ Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

**For client under 12 years of age:** I am \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian) of client and I have no interest adverse to client. I understand that this form is valid when I sign it and that I may withdraw my consent for advocacy services at any time either orally or in writing.

Signed: (parent or guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

**For an adult with a guardian who is not capable (per a court order) of making an informed decision about waiving privilege:** I am \_\_\_\_\_ the guardian of client and I have no interest adverse to client. I understand that this form is valid when I sign it and that I may withdraw my consent for advocacy services at any time either orally or in writing.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reaffirmation and Extension (if additional time is necessary to meet the purpose of this consent for advocacy services):**

I confirm that this form is still valid, and I would like to extend this consent for advocacy services until:

New date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: (age 12 and over) \_\_\_\_\_ Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: (parent for under age 12 or guardian) \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

- \* “Confidential communication” means any communication between a victim and a rape crisis counselor in the course of providing information, counseling, and advocacy. The term includes all records kept by the counselor or by the organization in the course of providing services to an alleged victim concerning the alleged victim and the services provided. 735 ILCS 5/8-802.1(b)(4).
- \*\* The term “personally identifying information” or “personal information” means individually identifying information for or about an individual including information likely to disclose the location of a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, regardless of whether the information is encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected, including —
  - (A) a first and last name;
  - (B) a home or other physical address;
  - (C) contact information (including a postal, e-mail or Internet protocol address, or telephone or facsimile number);
  - (D) a social security number, driver license number, passport number, or student identification number; and
  - (E) any other information, including date of birth, racial or ethnic background, or religious affiliation, that would serve to identify any individual. 42 U.S. Code § 13925(a)(20).
- \*\*\* Under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, 42 U.S. Code § 13925(b)(2), grantees and subgrantees with funding from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) may not disclose, reveal, or release individual client information without the informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person (or in the case of an unemancipated minor, the minor and the parent or guardian or in the case of legal incapacity, a court-appointed guardian) about whom information is sought, whether for this program or any other Federal, State, tribal, or territorial grant program, except that consent for release may not be given by the abuser of the minor, incapacitated person, or the abuser of the other parent of the minor.