



Victim Resource Information

Resources Information for Victims of Dating Violence,
Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

Reporting Options

If violence is occurring or the threat of violence is immediate, you should call 911.

You are encouraged to file an official report of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to your local law enforcement authorities or by contacting campus enforcement authorities, The University of Texas Police at Houston (UT Police), at 713-792-STOP (7867).

Filing a police report with local or campus enforcement authorities is optional and you have the right to choose whether or not to notify law enforcement.

You are also encouraged to report the incident to your institution's Title IX Office. To file a report with the Title IX Office you can choose from the options below:

MD Anderson Members

Sheri Wakefield,
Clery Act and Title IX Coordinator

713-745-6174

sbrownlo@mdanderson.org

Complete an electronic form at
www.mdanderson.org/campussafety

UTHealth Houston Members

Margaret McNeese, M.D.,
Title IX Coordinator

Deana Moylan,
Deputy Title IX Coordinator

713-500-CALL (2255)
call@uth.tmc.edu

Complete an electronic form at
www.uth.edu/titleix/

Immunity: To encourage victims and witnesses to come forward, members of the UTHealth Houston or MD Anderson communities who make a good faith report of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking will not be subject to discipline for associated student conduct violations, such as alcohol or drug offenses occurring at or near the time of the incident. Contact the Title IX Office for more information.

Preserving Evidence

You are encouraged to preserve all evidence that can support your report that a criminal offense occurred and/or that may be helpful in obtaining a protective order.

Such evidence may include phone and text message records, social media posts and messages, photographs, and videos.

In cases of sexual assault, a forensic exam can be performed by a Sexual Assault

Nurse Examiner (“SANE”) within 4 days of the incident, regardless of whether you choose to file a police report or a Title IX report. It is recommended that the exam be performed as soon as possible after the occurrence of the sexual assault and that you avoid changing clothes, douching, or showering prior to the exam.

Sexual Assault Examinations without Police Involvement

A sexual assault victim has the option to have a sexual assault examination without police involvement. A “non-report sexual assault exam” refers to the same exam, but the victim can choose whether to involve the police much later or not at all. A “non-report sexual assault exam” is confidential and all evidence collected during the exam will be securely stored and only

released with the victim’s written consent. Information about a victim’s visit to the hospital and the treatment they receive is also confidential. To receive a “non-report sexual assault exam,” the victim must be: (1) at least 18 years old, (2) arrive at the medical facility within 96 hours (4 days) of the assault, and (3) consent to the exam.

Protective Orders

Under Texas law, victims of family violence, sexual assault, human trafficking or stalking may obtain a protective or restraining order from a civil or criminal court. There are several resources available that will provide information about protective orders and the process for application:

Local county or district attorney's office

The Attorney General of Texas

(stalking, sexual assault and domestic violence)
www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/crime-victims

Houston Area Women's Center

Assists male and female survivors of domestic and sexual violence

Domestic Violence Hotline:

713-528-2121

Sexual Assault Hotline:

713-528-RAPE (7273)

www.hawc.org

Local legal aid office

Houston Volunteer Lawyers

713-228-0735

www.makejusticehappen.org

Hire a private attorney

If you obtain a protective or restraining order, you are encouraged to provide notice and a copy of that order to UT Police, as well as to your respective Title IX office.

Supportive Measures and Accommodations

When a police report or Title IX report, or both is filed, UTHHealth Houston and/or MD Anderson may offer reasonably available individualized services, without any fee or charge, such as housing reassignment, counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, withdrawal from or retake of a class without penalty, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, leaves of absences, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of campus, or other similar measures tailored to the individualized needs of the parties.

You may also request assistance from your Title IX office for adjustments to your academic schedule, living arrangements, transportation needs, or working assignments. UTHHealth Houston or MD Anderson will provide such assistance when appropriate, regardless of whether you choose to report the crime to law enforcement or file a formal complaint with the Title IX Office.

Confidentiality

Your report of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking will be kept confidential, subject to the requirements of applicable policies and federal and state laws. While information is shared strictly on a “need to know” basis, it will be used as needed for implementation of safety measures, investigations, delivery of support services, and/or employee or student discipline in accordance with applicable law.

Pseudonym

In Texas, you have the option to choose a pseudonym to be used instead of your real name in all public files and records related to the offense, which includes police summary reports, press releases and records of judicial proceedings. If you elect to use a pseudonym during the course of the investigation, a pseudonym form must be completed and provided to the law enforcement agency investigating the offense. Once the form is provided to the law enforcement agency, the agency

Reporting of the incident is required under the Clery Act and publically available records will be made accessible, but without the inclusion of any identifying information about you, as defined in 42 USC § 1395(a)(20). Information regarding any accommodations or protective measures provided to you are maintained as confidential to the extent that it does not impair the institution’s ability to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

will remove your name and substitute it with the pseudonym on all reports, files and records in the agency’s possession. Additionally, the law enforcement agency will notify the prosecutor of your decision to use a pseudonym and the prosecutor shall ensure that you are referred to by your pseudonym in all legal proceedings concerning the offense. However, the pseudonym form can/will be disclosed to the defendant and the defendant’s attorney.

Investigation & Disciplinary Procedures

Investigations of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct are conducted pursuant to UTHealth Houston's Prohibition of Sexual Harassment & Sexual Misconduct HOOP Policy #59 and MD Anderson's Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy ADM0285. Both you and the accused party will have the opportunity to participate fully in the Title IX investigation, which involves reviewing all evidence and a live hearing.

At the conclusion of an investigation, if a student or employee is found to have violated the institution's policy, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken according to the procedural steps outlined within the policy. Possible sanctions for students include expulsion, suspension, deferred expulsion/suspension, disciplinary probation, educational sanctions, and developmental probation. Possible sanctions for faculty and employees include written reprimands, reassignment, suspension, and dismissal.

Standard of Evidence: UTHealth Houston and MD Anderson use a "preponderance of the evidence" standard of evidence. This means that determinations are made based on the greater weight of the credible evidence (i.e., whether it is "more likely than not" that a violation occurred).

Rights of the Parties: The complainant and respondent each have the following rights throughout the investigation and disciplinary process:

- The right to a prompt, fair, and impartial process;
- The right to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice at any meetings or proceedings. If either party does not have an advisor at the time of a hearing, the institution will assign an advisor to the party. (Note: an advisor may not actively participate in the meetings or proceedings);
- The right to receive written notice of the result of any institutional disciplinary proceeding, information regarding procedures to appeal (if applicable), any change to the result upon appeal, and when such results become final.

Title IX investigations can take several weeks or several months to thoroughly and accurately investigate and determine whether violations of policy have occurred. It is important to stay engaged with the Title IX process so that an appropriate and timely outcome can be achieved.

Campus Resources

MD Anderson Members

The following MD Anderson resources provide confidential services:

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
(eligible employees, trainees, students and faculty)
713-404-3092

The Ombuds Office
713-792-4896
ombuds@mdanderson.org

For additional campus and community resource information, see [MD Anderson's Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy](#) (ADM0285). Contact eeogroup@mdanderson.org for a copy.

UTHealth Houston Members

The following UTHealth resources provide confidential services:

Student Health Services and Student Counseling
713-500-5171

Office of Academic Ombudsman
713-500-3457

Employee Assistance Program
(eligible employees only)
713-500-3327

Faculty Assistance Program
713-500-3380

Additionally, UTHealth Houston's Title IX website includes a list of campus and off-campus resources for counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other related services. Visit www.uth.edu/titleix and select "Support & Resources" for more information.

Texas Crime Victims Rights

A victim of violent crime is (1) someone who is the victim of sexual assault, kidnapping or aggravated robbery, or who has suffered bodily injury or death because of the criminal conduct of another; (2) the close relative (spouse, parent, adult brother

or sister, or child) of a deceased victim; or (3) the guardian of a victim. These rights apply to victims of juvenile crime, including victims who suffer property loss. Victims of crime have the right to:

- Receive adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts;
- Have their safety considered by the magistrate when setting bail;
- Advance notification, on request, of relevant court proceedings, including cancellations and rescheduling;
- Request information from a peace officer about the defendant's right to bail and criminal investigation procedures; and from the prosecutor's office about general procedures in the criminal justice system, including plea agreements, restitution, appeals and parole;
- Provide pertinent information concerning the impact of the crime to the probation department conducting the pre-sentencing investigation;
- Payment for a medical examination for a victim of sexual assault by the law enforcement agency requesting the exam and, on request, the right to counseling regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for sexual assault victims;
- Information, on request, about parole procedures, notifications of parole proceedings and of the inmate's release; and the right to participate in the parole process by submitting written information to the Board of Pardons and Paroles for inclusion in the defendant's file for consideration by the Board prior to parole;
- Be present at all public court proceedings, with the presiding judge's consent;
- A safe waiting area at all public court proceedings;
- Prompt return of any property that is no longer needed as evidence;
- Have the prosecutor notify, upon request, an employer that the need for the victim's testimony may involve the victim's absence from work;
- Complete a Victim Impact Statement, detailing the emotional, physical and financial impact of the crime on the victim and to have that statement considered by a judge at sentencing and by officials prior to the release of the offender(s).

Notice To Adult Victims of Family Violence

It is a crime for any person to cause you any physical injury or harm, even if that person is a member or former member of your family or household. Please tell the investigating peace officer: If you, your child or any other household resident has been injured; If you believe you will be in danger after the officer(s) leaves. You have a right to:

- A. Ask the local prosecutor to file a criminal complaint against the person committing family violence.
- B. Apply to a court for an order to protect you. To do so you should consult a legal aid office, a prosecuting attorney or a private attorney. If a family or household member assaults you and is arrested you may request that a Magistrate's Order for Emergency Protection be issued. Please inform the investigating officer if you want an

order of emergency protection. You need not be present when the order is issued. You cannot be charged a fee by a court in connection with filing, serving or entering a protective order.

For example, the court can enter an order that:

- (1) The abuser not commit further acts of violence
- (2) The abuser not threaten, harass, or contact you at home
- (3) Directs the abuser to leave your household
- (4) Establishes temporary custody of your children and directs the abuser not to interfere with your children or any property.

A violation of certain provisions of court ordered protection (such as 1 or 2 above) might be a felony.

VINELink

VINELink is the online version of VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), the National Victim Notification Network. This service allows crime victims to get information about criminal cases and the custody status of offenders. Victims

and other concerned citizens can register for this service by phone or internet.

1-877-TX4-VINE (1-877-894-8463)
www.vinelink.com



Local and National Resources

Institutional Resources

The University of Texas Police at Houston

911 (emergency)
713-792-2890 (non-emergency)
www.utph.org

MD Anderson Employee Assistance Program

Free confidential counseling services and referrals.

713-745-6901
<http://inside.mdanderson.org/humanresources/working-at-md-anderson/employee-resources/employee-assistance-program.html>

UTHealth Houston Student Health Services and Student Counseling

Free confidential counseling services and referrals.

713-500-5171
www.uth.edu/studenthealth

UTHealth Houston Employee Assistance Program

(eligible employees only)
Free confidential counseling services and referrals.

713-500-3327 (24-hour)
www.uth.edu/hr/department/eap

UTHealth Houston Faculty Assistance Program

Free confidential counseling services and referrals.

713-500-3380
www.uth.edu/hr/department/eap

UTHealth Houston After Hours Help (non-emergency)

Free confidential counseling services and referrals for non-life threatening emergencies.

713-500-5173

UTHealth Houston 24-hour Emergency Crisis Hotline

Crisis line for student and someone needs help.

713-500-4688

Local Resources

Houston Police Department

911 (emergency)
713-884-3131 (non-emergency)
www.houstontx.gov/police

Houston Area Women's Center

Services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their non-offending family and friends. Services include 24-hour hotlines, counseling and urgent referrals to shelters.

713-528-6798 (office)
713-528-2121 (domestic violence hotline)
713-528-7273 (sexual assault hotline)
www.hawc.org

Crisis Intervention of Houston

Confidential and anonymous services for any crisis event. Services include 24-hour crisis hotlines.

832-416-1177 (hotline)
832-416-1199 (teen hotline)
281-201-4430 (text)
www.crisishotline.org

The Montrose Center

Provides services for LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, hate crimes, trafficking, etc.

713-529-0037 (main)
713-529-3211 (24 hour helpline)
www.montrosecenter.org/hub

Fort Bend County Women's Center

Services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

281-344-5750 (office)
281-342-4347 (crisis hotline)
www.fbwc.org

Women's Center of Brazoria County

Services for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

281-585-0904 (office)
800-243-5788 (crisis hotline)
www.womenscenterbc.com

Montgomery County Women's Center

Services for victims of domestic and sexual violence as well as stalking.

936-441-4044 (office)
936-441-7273 (crisis hotline)
mcwctx.org

State Resources

Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston County

Services for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

409-763-1441 (office)

888-919-7233 (crisis hotline)

www.rccgc.org

Bridge over Troubled Waters (Pasadena)

Services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

713-472-0753 (office)

713-473-2801 (crisis hotline)

www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org

Bay Area Turning Point

Services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

(Counties primarily served: Harris, Chambers, Brazoria and Galveston)

281-338-7600 (office)

281-286-2525 (crisis hotline)

www.bayareaturningpoint.org

The Attorney General of Texas

(Stalking, Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence)

www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/crime-victim-services-assisting-victims-of-violent-crime



National Resources

National Therapy Directory

(in order to find a counselor near you)

www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

800-273-8255 (TALK)

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-7233 (English and Spanish)

www.thehotline.org

National Sexual Violence Resource Center

877-739-3895

www.nsvrc.org

Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)

800-656-4673

www.rainn.org

National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women

www.vawnet.org

Stalking Resource Center

202-467-8700

www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center

Veterans Crisis Hotline

800-273-8255

www.veteranscrisisline.net



LGBT National Hotline

888-843-4564

www.glbthotline.org/hotline

Trans Lifeline

24 hour hotline staffed by transgender people for transgender people in a crisis

877-565-8860

Crisis Text Line

Free 24/7 support via text for individuals in crisis

Text “Start” to 741-741

U.S. Department of State

202-647-4000 (main switchboard)

800-877-8339 (TTY, Federal Relay Service)

202-663-1255 (visa information)

www.state.gov/m/ds

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

202-282-8000 (operator)

800-375-5283 (U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services)

www.dhs.gov or

www.state.gov/m/ds (USCIS)






UTHealth
Houston

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson
Cancer Center

Members of the University of Texas Health Houston (UTHealth Houston) and/or The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MD Anderson) community that make a report of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking – whether the offense occurred on or off campus – must be provided with information required by both federal law and Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”).

In this handbook, you will find not only the information required by law, but also resource information for victims (complainants).