ASSISTING VICTIMS IN REPORTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
A GUIDE FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINERS

Ask the victim if s/he would like to make a standard report to law enforcement. Explain what this means and the benefits of doing so, including the victim’s rights. 

Does the victim want to make a standard report?

STOP HERE
Assist victim in making a standard report to law enforcement.

Establish where the assault took place. 

Does the assault fall under the jurisdiction of Duluth PD, Hermantown PD, Proctor PD, UMD PD, St. Louis County Sheriff’s Dept, Douglas County Sheriff’s Dept or Superior PD?

NO

Ask the victim if s/he would like evidence collected. Explain that evidence held at the hospital is subject to destruction without notification and that clothing will not be collected. 

Would the victim like to make a standard report?

NO

NO

STOP HERE
Assist victim in making an anonymous 3rd party report to law enforcement.

STOP HERE
Assist victim in making a standard report to law enforcement.

YES

Ask the victim if s/he would like evidence collected and explain the process of anonymous reporting (refer to "Anonymous 3rd Party Reporting Option Form").

Would the victim like to make an anonymous 3rd party report?

YES

Choose “Other” on the Authorization for Release of Sexual Assault Information Form and write “Evidence to be held for no longer than 6 months at St. Mary’s Medical Center/St. Luke’s Hospital”. Explain to the victim that any evidence held at the hospital is subject to destruction at any time without notification and that clothing and other physical evidence will not be collected.

STOP HERE
Assist victim in making a standard report to law enforcement.

YES

YES

WARNING!
This option should be used ONLY if...
The victim does not have the option of reporting anonymously OR
The patient will not have the exam otherwise.

Ask the victim if s/he would like evidence collected. Explain that evidence held at the hospital is subject to destruction without notification and that clothing will not be collected.

Would the victim like to make a standard report?