



VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SEXUAL ASSAULT INFORMATION

Case # _____

Deputy _____

Date _____

In accordance with Sections 13701 and 680.2 of the Penal Code, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office hereby provides the following information to the victims of 261, 261.5, 262, 286, 287, 288(a) or 289 of the California Penal Code:

SEXUAL ASSAULT BY A PERSON WHO IS KNOWN TO THE VICTIM, INCLUDING SEXUAL ASSAULT BY A SPOUSE IS A CRIME.

Sexual Abuse is any unwanted intimate or sexual touching by one person to another person without consent. If you were a victim of sexual abuse, you have the following rights:

- To ask for a protective order (protection from your abuser). The police or the Ventura County District Attorney's Family Violence Prevention Center can provide information about how to get a protective order. Call (805) 654-3622 for more information.
- To ask for a medical forensic exam. This is a free exam but not all sexual assault or abuse cases will qualify and/or need to have an exam done. The exam is to collect evidence from your body.
- To report your sexual abuse incident to the police and have an investigation started or to keep the incident private.

If you are not ready to talk to the police, you can still ask to get a medical forensic exam done to save any evidence that may exist. An exam without a police investigation is called an abbreviated exam. Evidence collected during the exam will be saved in case you change your mind and later want an investigation done by the police. The evidence will not last forever and might not be tested unless you want an investigation. Within 2 years of the crime happening, any items of evidence that might have DNA on them, should be taken to a lab for testing.

Any forensic evidence collected will be kept for up to 20 years. If the crime happened when you were under the age of 18, evidence will be kept until you turn 40 years old. Here is some important information about evidence:

- Evidence doesn't last too long on the body or other places. Keeping it untouched is important. The sooner evidence is collected, the better!
- If the crime just occurred, do not shower or take a bath, do not wash your private parts, and try not to clean anything until evidence is collected.
- Do not throw away or wash any items like clothes, blankets, or bedsheets that may have evidence on them. If you have already washed your clothes or other fabric items, keep them anyway. Evidence might still be on them.

You can be provided with a trained support person who works with victims of sexual abuse. They will be with you for emotional support while you get any needed exams and also when or if you talk to the police about what happened. You can also choose to have a person you know as a support person.

- The Coalition for Family Harmony has support people available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To get more information, contact them at (800) 300-2181.

You have a right to get a free copy of the original police report. It does not matter if the case is still open or if it is closed. You can also ask for the results of your exam and you have a right to know what evidence was found. Here are some other things to know:

- To obtain a copy of the initial police report you can contact Ventura Sheriff's Records at (805) 654-2336 or Thousand Oaks Sheriff's Records at (805) 494-8208.
- The agency may black out some information in the report (to protect any personal information) before giving it to you.
- To obtain results of an exam contact Sheriff's Special Services at (805) 384-4742. You will need to provide your name, telephone number, and case number if available. Your information will be forwarded to the appropriate detective who will re-contact you and provide you with the report.

If the person who abused you is convicted of a sexual abuse crime, you have the right to ask for their sex registry information (background information). To ask for this information, you will need to contact or write to the Ventura County District Attorney's Office.

If you were a victim of sexual abuse, the California Victim Compensation Board might be able to provide money to help pay for: medical and dental bills, relocation, mental health counseling, loss of income, or other expenses due to the crime.

- You can contact the California Victim Compensation Board at <https://victims.ca.gov> or call (800) 777-9229
- The District Attorney's Crime Victims' Assistance Unit can also help you with the application process. To get more information, contact them at (805) 654-3622.

Available Resources

The Coalition for Family Harmony at: (805) 983-6014 Monday-Friday from 8 am – 5 pm or **(800) 300-2181** for 24 hour help. They can also be reached at www.thecoalition.org

Ventura County District Attorney's Crime Victims' Assistance Unit: (805) 654-3622

To confer with the prosecuting agency regarding the charges filed; to assert the rights outlined in this handout and assistance in applying for CalVCB

Ventura County Family Justice Center: (805) 652-7655

Comprehensive services and restraining order assistance available at one location by multiple agencies for those impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder and dependent adult abuse, human trafficking and other violent crimes

California Victim Compensation Board: (800) 777-9229

Provides assistance with: medical and dental bills, relocation, mental health counseling, loss of income, or other expenses <https://victims.ca.gov>

Interface Children and Family Services: (800) 636-6738

Domestic Violence emergency shelter and counseling services

Ventura County 211: (Dial 211)

A source for information and other Ventura County agencies and resources www.211Ventura.org



Victim Resources

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