

Community Resources

- FOR ALL EMERGENCIES** 9-1-1
- Community Information and Referral 602-263-8856
- Outside Maricopa County 800-352-3702

- CASA (Center Against Sexual Abuse) 24-hr hotline 602-254-9000
- For counseling appointments 602-254-6400

- Maricopa County Attorney’s Office 602-506-8526
- Victim Compensation Bureau 602-506-4955

For Orders of Protection/Injunctions against Harassment

- Phoenix Municipal Court 602-262-7120
- Family Advocacy Center 602-534-2120
- Superior Court – Domestic Relations 602-506-3754
- Superior Court -- Civil Matters 602-506-2168

Note: *An order of protection can be obtained through any courthouse; victim’s advocates can assist with the process.*

SART Advocacy Centers

Center Against Family Violence
 225 E. 1st St.
 Mesa, AZ 85201

Scottsdale Healthcare
 SANE Unit
 7301 E. 4th St. , Ste. 20
 Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Family Advocacy Center
 2120 N. Central Ave., Ste 250
 Phoenix, AZ 85003

West Valley Advocacy Center
 6829 N. 57th Ave.
 Glendale, AZ 85301



SCOTTSDALE
 HEALTHCARESM

SANE Unit

7301 E. 4th Street, Ste. 20 • Scottsdale, AZ 85251-6403 • 480-675-4396

www.shc.org

Care and Services
 for Sexual Assault
 Victims

SART
 (Sexual Assault Response Team)
 and
SANE
 (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners)

COMMUNITY GUIDE

How SART and SANE Can Help

Maricopa County has adopted a team approach - the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) - to the investigation of sexual assault and sexual abuse. In most instances, victims of sexual assault or abuse can be escorted by law enforcement to Advocacy Centers located throughout the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Resources for the investigation, medical-forensic examination and crisis intervention are available at one location, helping to decrease the anxiety and fear associated with this type of crime. It is believed that a team approach will assist sexual assault victims through the investigation process as quickly as possible.

Team Members

SART is divided into two categories: those directly involved in the investigation and prosecution of the crime and those that provide care and intervention for the victim (patient).

Investigatory Members

- Law Enforcement
- Adult Protective Services
- Child Protective Services

Non-Investigatory Members

- Healthcare
- Crisis Intervention Specialists
- Victim Advocates
- Sexual Assault Nurse/Physician Examiners (SANE)

Victim-Centered Care

The registered nurses who have been specially trained as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) are dedicated to providing the best service possible to their patients -- the victims of sexual assault.

We believe that:

- Significant psychological trauma may exist in the absence of physical trauma
- Sexual assault patients experience varying degrees of psychological trauma
- The effects of psychological trauma are often more difficult to recognize than physical trauma
- Sexual assault patients have the right to expect competent, empathetic and unbiased care
- Patients have the right to participate in decisions regarding their care
- Patients may decline any aspect of treatment during the course of the examination and follow-up

“Sexual Assault or Rape is intentionally or knowingly engaging in sexual intercourse or oral sexual contact with any person without consent of such person.”

- One out of every four women will be sexually assaulted sometime during her life.
- Every hour, 16 sexual assaults are attempted; 10 are completed.
- It is estimated that one of every 12 sexual assault victims is male.
- 75% of female sexual assault victims knew their offender; 29% were current or former spouses or boyfriends; 40% were acquaintances; 9% were relatives.
- One out of every six men will be sexually assaulted sometime during his lifetime.

Sexual assault is not about intimacy or love. Sexual assault is a sexual act performed to exert power and control over another person. The victim is not at fault.

This booklet is designed to provide guidelines and resources for Maricopa County sexual assault victims about the agencies providing them with comprehensive care and services.

Readers are encouraged to contact the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) or any other Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) resource for questions, concerns or clarifications.

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If You Have Been Sexually Assaulted

What You Need to Know

If you have been sexually assaulted, call 9-1-1 immediately. You should not shower, bathe, douche, urinate or otherwise alter your physical self, or engage in any activity that may contaminate or destroy valuable evidence such as semen, saliva, hairs, etc. This includes:

- Changing clothes
- Eating
- Smoking
- Chewing gum
- Drinking
- Brushing teeth/using mouthwash

Your clothing may need to be collected as evidence if it was worn during or immediately after the assault. If possible, bring a change of clothing or have someone bring clothing to you.

If the report is delayed, evidence may still be available. You should not wash bedding or clothes, or dispose of any items associated with the assault.

If there is any reason to believe that you were drugged, it is extremely important to obtain a urine sample for a complete toxicology screen as soon as possible. Blood may also be collected.

What Happens Next

1. Law Enforcement (Patrol or First Responding Officer)

An officer from the jurisdiction where the assault occurred should be contacted to speak with the victim.

- Ensures victim's safety
- Evaluates need for emergency medical care (care that must be provided in an Emergency Department)
- Evaluates need for additional units, supervisor, and/or response from Investigations
- Conducts preliminary interview of victim
- Determines need for a medical-forensic exam and notifies SANE
- Assesses the need for a search warrant
- Assesses the need for arrest if the suspect is located
- Assesses the need for scene preservation/photographs
- Escorts the victim to the exam facility and remains available during exam
- May assist in providing transportation for victim following the exam
- Completes report and submits to Detectives.

If You Have Been Sexually Assaulted

2. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)

Scottsdale Healthcare has developed a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Unit and established a contractual relationship with Maricopa County to provide sexual assault (rape) examinations. One or more Examiners are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to requests from law enforcement to perform medical-forensic (rape) exams.

- Responds to law enforcement request for a medical-forensic exam
- Activates Advocate or Crisis Intervention Specialist
- Conducts Sexual Assault Examination which includes:
 - History for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment
 - Complete head-to-toe examination and detailed genital exam to identify trauma
 - Collection of forensic evidence throughout the examination process
- Educates patient regarding sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and pregnancy, and administers preventative medications
- Addresses medical needs and provides referrals for follow-up
- In certain circumstances may perform follow-up exam for STD and pregnancy testing
- Maintains the legal chain of custody for evidence collected
- Provides expert witness testimony in court when necessary.

3. Rape Crisis Advocate/Crisis Intervention Specialist

- Responds when notified by SANE or law enforcement
- Provides immediate crisis intervention, support, and advocacy for the victim, family and friends.
- Acts as a liaison between team members and the victim
- Provides resources and referrals for counseling
- Discusses the need for additional crisis intervention and/or therapy. Advises victim and family about available services.
- Remains available to victim and family for ongoing telephone or face-to-face contacts to assist in coping with the assault.

If You Have Been Sexually Assaulted

4. Detective Follow-Up

- Detective or Investigative Sergeant is notified of sexual assault. Depending on the circumstances, a detective may respond to the scene or to the exam facility.
- Reviews available crime report and Sexual Assault Examination Report
- Makes contact with victim; provides support and transportation when necessary
- Interviews victim and verifies or clarifies contents of preliminary investigation
- Interviews witnesses
- Submits requests for crime lab to analyze physical evidence
- Checks crime scene and obtains appropriate photographs
- If suspect is unknown, attempts to identify
- If suspect is identified, and elements of the crime exist, submits follow-up investigation to County Attorney

5. Prosecution (The Maricopa County Attorney's Office)

- Receives/reviews submittal from law enforcement
- Requests additional investigation components, when indicated
- Determines if case meets filing standards (can the case be successfully prosecuted?)
- Prepares for trial; prepares victim for trial
- Prosecutes case in Superior Court on behalf of the victim and society

99 out of 100 people will report when someone has broken into their car. Only 16 out of 100 people will report when someone has broken into their body.

Rape is a crime---report it.

Protect Yourself From Acquaintance/Date/Spousal Rape

A level of male aggression is accepted in our society. As a result, women are vulnerable to acquaintance, date and spousal rape, where the social setting may prevent the situation from being recognized as rape. Additional contributing factors include:

- The victim may feel she knows the assailant, and therefore trusts him
- The victim may be reluctant or afraid to defend herself
- The presence of alcohol or other drugs which were willingly consumed by the victim

Rape is rape regardless of whether the victim knows the offender or not.

We believe every person has the following rights:

- The right to decide who can touch your body
- The right to set sexual limits and defend yourself if the limits are not respected
- The right to change your mind about having sex at any time
- The right to reject unwanted attention and/or affection
- The right to protect yourself

You have these rights even if:

- You were treated to dinner, a movie or anything else
- You were previously flirtatious with the assailant
- You have previously had a sexual relationship with the assailant

Remember that being in his car or house does not mean you have agreed to have sex with him.

We offer the following suggestions to keep yourself safe:

- Be aware of and avoid situations that may put you at risk for unwanted sex
- Watch out for anyone who tries to get you drunk or high
- Don't accept a drink from someone you do not know, or leave a drink unattended
- Trust your feelings - - if it feels wrong, it probably is
- Don't allow yourself to be pressured into unwanted sex
- Be assertive – Speak up – Get angry – YOU ARE WORTH IT