

Information and Resources for Individuals Reporting Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking

The law school will support individuals in making referrals to, contacting, and /or providing the options and support resources outlined below, regardless of whether an individual wishes to report covered misconduct to law enforcement authorities or make a Formal Complaint described in the Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Prohibited by Title IX Policy.

A. OBTAINING SUPPORT

You are in control to decide whether you want to talk with somebody about the incident and with whom you want to talk. The choice to report a crime to the police is also yours, though VLS may be required to report a crime to the police in contradiction to the complainant's wishes if VLS determines that the circumstances pose an ongoing threat to a member or members of the VLS community. If you are unsure about what to do immediately after an incident, these are some of your options:

1. Call a rape-crisis hotline.
 - a. **Safeline 800-639-7233**
 - b. **WISE (Women's Information Services) 603-448-5525** (toll free 866-348-9473)
 - c. Safeline and WISE trained counselors are available 24 hours a day. They can talk with you about your options, and they can accompany you through any or all stages of the process, including going to the hospital and reporting to the police.
2. Go to a friend's house or any place where people can give you emotional support.
3. Call the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity at 802-831-1333 or Vice Dean for Students at 802-831-1004.
4. Call **Clara Martin Center 24-hour Emergency Service 800-639-6360**.
5. Call a domestic violence support provider.
 - a. **Vermont 211** – A free and confidential service.
 - b. **SafeSpace Vermont** – Support for LGBTQIA survivors of violence, 802-863-0003.
 - c. **rainn.org** – Rape Abuse, Incest National Network, 24/7 hotline.
 - d. **Deaf Vermonters Advocacy Services** – Videophone or hearing, 802-661-4091.
 - e. **malesurvivor.org** – Overcoming sexual victimization for boys and men.
 - f. **Women Safe 24-hour hotline** – 800-388-4205, provides crisis intervention and emotional support to survivors of abuse.

B. OBTAINING MEDICAL ATTENTION

It is important to seek medical attention, even if you do not have visible injuries.

1. Seeking medical attention immediately or shortly after an incident provides the most options in the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.
2. You do not need to make a report or talk to the police in order to seek medical attention.
3. Gifford Medical Center (802-728-4441) in Randolph and Dartmouth-Hitchcock (603-650-5000) In Lebanon are the only area hospitals that possess necessary medical tests for rape/sexual assault incidents.
4. Do not bathe, shower, douche, brush your teeth, change your clothes, or clean up before you obtain medical attention.
5. You will need to bring a change of clothes with you, because your clothing will be collected as evidence.
6. You can get evidence collected anonymously and have it kept for you for at least six months so you can decide whether filing a report with the police is right for you.

C. OBTAINING EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION

Emergency contraception (EC) can prevent pregnancy after unprotected vaginal intercourse. It is also called “morning-after” contraception, emergency birth control, or back-up birth control. EC dramatically reduces the risk of pregnancy when started within 72 hours (three days) after unprotected intercourse. It must be started prior to 120 hours (five days) in order to reduce the risk of pregnancy. The sooner it is started the better. The hospital may provide this upon your visit. If it does not, or if you do not wish to go to the hospital, EC is available over-the counter at local pharmacies and drug stores.

Pharmacies known to carry EC:

1. **Rite Aid Pharmacy**, Gifford Family Health Center, Route 107, Bethel, VT. Closed Saturday and Sunday, 802-234-5289.
2. **Walgreens Drug Store**, 3 Airport Rd., W. Lebanon, NH (Exit 20 off I-89S). Open 24 hours a day, 603-398-5796.

D. REPORTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

As a legal adult, the decision of whether or not to report the crime is yours, (although VLS may be required to report crimes as described above in section A.) Local law enforcement may be reached at:

1. **State Police** (Bethel office) 802-234-9933.

2. South Royalton Police Department, 802-763-7776 or 911.

If you want assistance in making this report, see the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity, who will be happy to talk with you about it, be there when you call, or accompany you if you so choose. Your options include: notifying law enforcement authorities; being assisted by VLS in notifying law enforcement authorities, if you choose to have VLS's support in notifying law enforcement authorities; and declining to notify such authorities.

E. MAKING A FORMAL COMPLAINT

You may choose to make a Formal Complaint by filing a document in writing to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. Please see the Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Prohibited by Title IX Policy for additional information on the Formal Complaint process.

F. SEEKING COUNSELING

VLS provides up to ten free short-term confidential counseling service visits to Vermont Law School students. For evaluation, consultation, and/or referral, contact our counseling service, Clara Martin Center 802-728-4466.

Alternatively, you may want to contact a community mental health center near you.

G. GET ASSISTANCE FROM THE LAW SCHOOL

For initial counseling and referral to counseling and legal reporting sources, and/or if, in the aftermath of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, you are having difficulty concentrating on your work at school or effectively dealing with various aspects of your life, see the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity or the Deputy Title IX Coordinator. The Law School may make reasonable accommodations to assist you, including issuance of no contact orders and assistance with changes in your academic schedule and/or living, working, or transportation arrangements, should such changes be required and reasonably available. Depending on your needs, you may be eligible for academic accommodations such as leave of absence, reduced course load, or rescheduling of exams. You may also be eligible for assistance with visa and immigration questions and issues, as well as student financial aid.

If you feel close to another faculty or staff member at the Law School, talk to that person about what you are experiencing and what options may be available. You and/or the faculty or staff member (with your permission) can then consult with the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity. Please understand that these individuals may be required to inform the Title IX Coordinator of information you provide; if you wish to have a confidential conversation, you should speak with a confidential resource, such as a medical or mental health provider.

Clery reporting and disclosures are completed through anonymous data collection annually. You can see our security report in the Campus Safety or Title IX section of our website. [Here](#) is a link to the Campus Safety Report:

The Law School will assist complainants who wish to pursue the issuance of orders of protection (e.g. relief from abuse orders) in contacting appropriate authorities, will issue no-contact and no-trespass orders as necessary and appropriate, and will facilitate the implementation of judicially-ordered protective measures to the extent that it has the jurisdiction to do so on its campus and/or in connection with its programs.

The Law School will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to you to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the Law School's ability to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

H. PRESERVING EVIDENCE

In addition to preserving evidence of a sexual assault as described above, you should also, to allow you to preserve your options to seek criminal prosecution, an order of protection, or disciplinary action by the Law School, preserve any other physical, documentary, photographic, or other evidence that might be relevant to an incident or incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking. This would include electronically-stored information such as text messages, emails, or video and audio files.