Sexual Assault Hotlines

*Spanish available

Center for the Pacific Asian Family ..... (800) 339-3940
(Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese available)

East Los Angeles Women's Center Crisis Hotline* ..... (800) 585-6231

Peace Over Violence*
Los Angeles ..... (213) 626-3393
West Los Angeles Area ..... (310) 392-8381
San Gabriel Valley ..... (626) 793-3385

Project Sister Family Services*
Pomona Valley, San Gabriel Valley ..... (909) 626-4357

Rape Treatment Center, Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center* (424) 259-7208

Strength United*
San Fernando Valley ..... (818) 886-0453
Santa Clarita Valley ..... (661) 253-0258

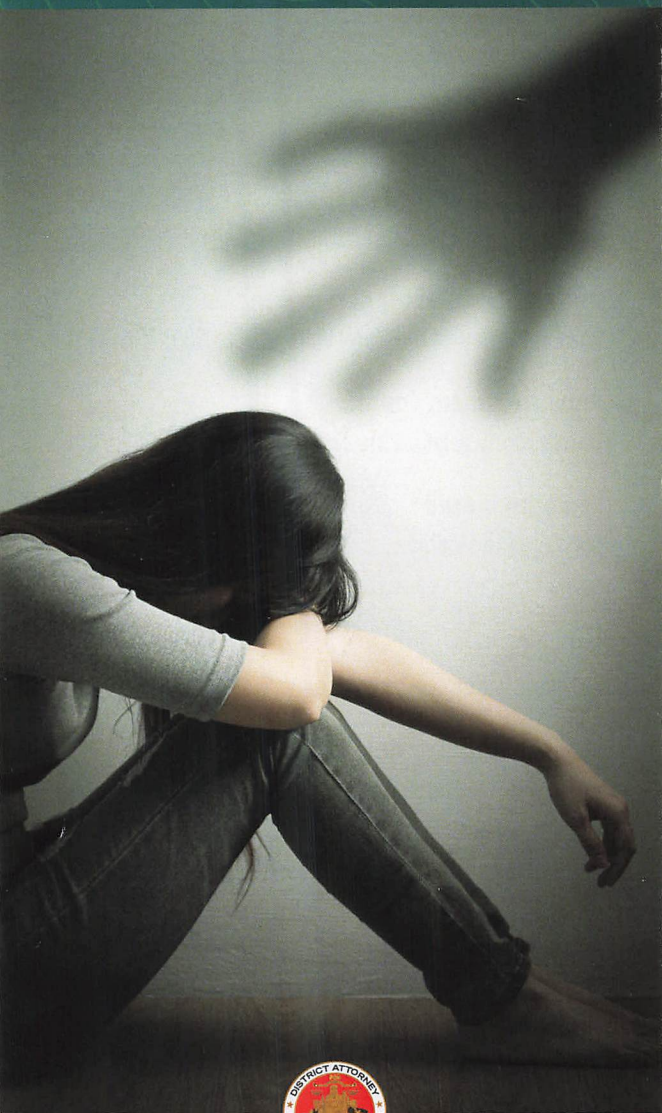
Valley Oasis*
Antelope Valley ..... (661) 723-7273

YWCA Greater Los Angeles Sexual Assault Crisis Services*
Compton, South Bay,
South Los Angeles ..... (877) Y-HELPS-U
(877) 943-5778

Scan here to view this pamphlet online.

DA-1586 01/25

SEXUAL ASSAULT



NATHAN J. HOCHMAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

da.lacounty.gov @LADAOffice @LACountyDA

Helping Crime Victims Become Survivors

For Counseling Referrals 

For Crisis Intervention 

For Case Status Notification 

For Emergency Assistance 

For Restitution Assistance 

For Court Escort 

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Bureau of Victim Services
da.lacounty.gov/victims

(800) 380-3811

Victims' Rights

- A victim of sexual assault, in which a criminal case has been filed against the suspected attacker, has the right to have the suspect tested for HIV/AIDS and be notified of the test results prior to the conclusion of the case. The court will order testing at the victim's request or at the request of the prosecutor on the victim's behalf if the judge determines that bodily fluids were transmitted during the attack.

- A victim has the right to request that their name and address be kept confidential from the public, both in court records and during testimony.

- A victim generally cannot be questioned about their past sexual history in court. (There are some very limited exceptions.)

- A victim has the right to be present at the defendant's sentencing and to make a victim impact statement to the sentencing judge.

- A victim has the right to be notified of all parole hearings and to provide information for consideration before a decision is made to release the convict.

- A victim has the right to be notified of the offender's release, escape from prison or death. To assure notification, a victim must complete the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Request for Victim Services Form 1707 and always keep the CDCR's Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services informed of their current address. To obtain the form and filing instructions call **(877) 256-6877** or visit **cdcr.ca.gov/victim_services/**.

Reporting

There are many reasons to report a sexual assault:

- Many attackers are repeat offenders. Reporting the crime can help identify and apprehend an attacker before they strike again.
- Reporting the crime may provide a victim with a way to lessen or end their victimization.
- By taking action to bring an attacker to justice, a victim may be empowered.
- The attacker is subject to prosecution.
- A victim who reports the crime and is cooperative with law enforcement is eligible for free counseling and compensation from the California Victim Compensation Board.

Police Report and Medical Exam

When law enforcement is called, an officer will take a crime report and, if appropriate, arrange for a free medical examination. A victim may request that a friend or support person and a victim services representative be present when the report is taken. In addition, a female victim may request that a female officer be assigned to her case.

It is best to report a sexual assault as soon as possible because an early report will permit the preservation of valuable evidence. However, a late report will be accepted. A victim should not refrain from reporting an assault simply because there has been a delay.

One victim's report may help corroborate another victim's report against the same suspect.

Prosecution

Once the report has been investigated and a suspect has been identified, law enforcement officers will bring the case to the District Attorney's Office for review. If there is sufficient evidence, the District Attorney's Office will file criminal charges.

Sexual assault cases are prosecuted by specialized deputy district attorneys who will interview the victim, explain the court process and stay with the case from the time of filing until final disposition. This practice provides a victim with a consistent contact throughout the proceedings and avoids having a victim repeat their account of the crime to several different prosecutors.

Testifying

After a case is filed, it will be set for preliminary hearing. In most cases, the victim will need to testify in court – there will be no jury. If the judge finds that there is sufficient evidence, they will set the case for pretrial motions and trial. If there is a trial, the victim must testify, in most cases, in front of a jury. If the defendant pleads guilty before trial, the victim will not need to testify. Prior to any testimony, the prosecutor will discuss the courtroom process with the victim.

Victim Services

The District Attorney's Bureau of Victim Services is available at courthouses and police stations throughout Los Angeles County. Victim services representatives provide assistance and resources to help keep victims safe and counseling referrals to address the trauma of sexual assault. In addition to helping victims obtain restitution, the representatives provide criminal justice system orientation, court support, protective order assistance, emergency shelter, food, clothing, and assistance in filing for compensation through the California Victim Compensation Board.