

It is strongly encouraged to submit a formal complaint as soon as possible after the incident takes place or becomes known in order to optimize opportunities to secure evidence and witnesses. As there is no time limit on reporting violations of this policy, if a reporting or Respondent(s) is no longer affiliated with Walsh University (e.g. a formal complaint is made after a student has withdrawn/graduated, or an employee or University volunteer is no longer employed and left their position), The University is often limited in its recourse to dress the concern, as the University no longer has jurisdiction over the reported incident.

## **L. Law Enforcement Notification**

The University also urges the Complainant(s) to report all instances of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, retaliation and other forms of interpersonal violence or sex discrimination or criminal activity to Walsh University Campus Police or other law enforcement agencies. The Complainant(s) may contact Campus Police or local law enforcement directly, whether or not a formal complaint has been filed with the University. If requested, the University can assist the Complainant(s) in notifying law enforcement or legal service organizations to learn about these remedies. The Complainant(s) may also decline to notify law enforcement. Please see the Sexual Misconduct and Interpersonal Violence Prevention Policy (Section C “Definitions – Ohio Revised Code”) for more information on the definitions of these crimes according to the Ohio Revised Code.

A person may formally report an incident to either the police or the University or to both.

### **1. How to File a Police Report**

A victim/survivor wanting to make a police report can contact Campus Police (available 24/7) using the below information.

#### **a. On-Campus Law Enforcement– Students and Employees**

**Walsh University Campus Police** | (330) 490-7474 or (330) 316-1088  
2020 East Maple Street, North Canton, OH 44720

Filing a formal complaint with Campus Police or local law enforcement allows the department the ability to investigate the alleged crime(s), gather evidence, and refer a case for prosecution when warranted. A victim/survivor may choose to have an advocate present from COMPASS Sexual Assault Education, Prevention & Support (330-452-1111) or Domestic Violence Project, Inc. (330-453-7233) when filing the report.

### **2. Effect of Law Enforcement Notification**

The filing of a formal complaint of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, retaliation and other forms of interpersonal violence or sex discrimination under this policy is independent of any criminal investigation or proceeding. The University typically does not wait for the conclusion of any criminal investigation or proceedings to commence its own investigation or to take any necessary interim remedies to protect the Complainant(s) and the University community. However, the University may temporarily delay its investigation to enable law enforcement to gather evidence and to engage in a preliminary investigation of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, retaliation and other forms of interpersonal violence or sex discrimination that may also violate state or federal law.

## **M. Preservation of Evidence**

As time passes, evidence of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, retaliation and other forms of interpersonal violence or sex discrimination may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, possible prosecution, disciplinary

proceedings, or obtaining orders of protection related to the reported incident more difficult. If a Complainant(s) chooses not to make a formal complaint to the University regarding an incident, they nevertheless they are still able to speak with Walsh University Campus Police or other law enforcement agencies and/or a local Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program regarding evidence preservation in the event the Complainant(s) changes their mind at a later date. Further, completion of a medical forensic evaluation may also allow a Complainant(s) to preserve evidence while deciding whether to later file a police report.

#### **1. Preserving Evidence for Sexual Assaults**

Physical evidence is crucial in helping to prosecute assailants in cases of rape or sexual assault and in obtaining a protection order. Physical evidence must be collected in a timely manner by a certified medical facility. Two of these local medical programs include Aultman Hospital's Serenity Program and Mercy Medical Center's Haven Program whose contact information is listed below #4. Prior to a medical/legal exam, victim/survivors of rape or assault should not bathe, change clothes, douche, use the toilet (if possible), smoke or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 96 hours so that the evidence may be preserved. If victim/survivors do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted diseases.

#### **2. Preserving Evidence for Victim/Survivors of Violence**

Preserving evidence may be necessary to prove criminal domestic violence or dating violence, and in obtaining a protection order. Victim/survivors of violence should not bathe or change clothes prior to documentation of physical evidence. Two of the local medical programs that can provide a domestic violence forensic examination for victims/survivors include Aultman Hospital's Serenity Program and Mercy Medical Center's Haven Program whose contact information is listed below in (SECTION #). If victim/survivors do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries.

#### **3. Preserving Evidence for Victim/Survivors of Stalking**

Preserving evidence of stalking may be necessary to prove criminal stalking and assisting a victim/survivor in obtaining a protection order. Victim/survivors of stalking should save evidence such as any letters, notes, emails, phone calls, videos, photos, texts, social media postings, computer screenshots, voicemails, or any other form of evidence that would be helpful.

#### **4. Off-Campus Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Programs – Students and Employees**

- a. **Aultman Hospital Serenity Program** | (330) 363-6788 | [www.aultman.org](http://www.aultman.org)  
2600 6th St SW, Canton, OH 44710

*\*Please go to the Aultman Emergency Department to access Serenity Program services.*

- b. **Mercy Medical Center's Haven Program** | (330) 489-1000 x2170 | [www.cantonmercy.org](http://www.cantonmercy.org).

Healing After Violent Encounter's Network Program  
1320 Mercy Drive NW, Canton, OH 44708