What to Do When a Student Reports Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence and Stalking

The University is committed to protecting community safety and supporting victims and survivors of sexual violence, relationship violence and stalking. Under UConn's <u>Policy Against Discrimination</u>, <u>Harassment</u>, and <u>Related Interpersonal Violence</u>, all employees who witness or receive a disclosure of sexual violence, relationship violence or stalking involving students must immediately report to the <u>Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE)</u>. This allows the University to offer a range of resources and options to impacted students. Employees who are empowered by law to maintain confidentiality within <u>Student Health Services</u> and <u>Counseling and Mental Health Services</u> are exempted from reporting. Exceptions also exist for disclosures made during public speak-out events and in connection with course assignments submitted to instructors.

What to do

- Listen without judgment and offer your support. *"I'm sorry that this happened. I appreciated your telling me and would like to help. Is there anything I can do that would be most helpful to you right now?"*
- Inform the student <u>early in your conversation</u> that while your conversation will be <u>private</u>, it will not be <u>confidential</u>, given your status as a Responsible Employee. The University takes these matters very seriously and after your conversation, you will be calling an office that can help, the <u>Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE)</u>. If you are a <u>Campus Security Authority (CSA</u>), you also will be calling <u>UConn Police</u>. The person disclosing will have choices after that about whether to talk with ODE or Police or engage with any other offices that will be their decision.
- Address any <u>medical concerns</u>. Inform her/him of the importance of <u>preserving evidence</u>. A student does not need to make a report or press charges to receive medical care.
- Strongly encourage the student to report directly herself or himself to both <u>police</u> and <u>ODE</u>.
- Connect the student to <u>resources</u> (see reverse), including <u>titleix.uconn.edu</u>. "There are a number of places on and off campus that can provide you with help, information and support. Detailed information is contained online at <u>titleix.uconn.edu</u>. Available resources include counseling, or discussing the need for adjustments to course, work or living situations"
- <u>Report the information to ODE</u>. "I know this was hard to share with me. I am now going to make a report to the Office of Diversity and Equity, an office that can help. I can make the call or you can, while I sit with you. ODE will reach out to you to offer assistance and options."



OFFICE OF DIVERSITY & EQUITY

What NOT to do

- Do NOT promise confidentiality. You are not able to keep information confidential, and you should never promise confidentiality. You should instead offer privacy and discretion.
- Do NOT offer or attempt to investigate the information shared with you or mediate the situation between the people involved.

Offices to Contact

Contact **ODE** at **860-486-2943** as soon as possible to make a report (within 24 hours of receiving a disclosure).

Call 911 immediately if you witness a criminal event or you believe there is an immediate threat to the campus community or the safety of any person.

In addition, bear in mind that employees who are <u>Campus Security Authorities (CSAs)</u> also have a duty to report crimes to the UConn Police Department in addition to reporting to ODE.

What Happens Next?

ODE and other appropriate University offices will assist the student with any immediate concerns, such as safety and housing or classroom arrangements, connect the student to on and off-campus resources, and determine the appropriate investigatory action in response to the report.

Reporting Sexual Harassment

All university community members are strongly encouraged to report all incidents of sexual harassment to Deans, Directors, Department Heads and ODE. Supervisors MUST report incidents of sexual harassment involving students or employees to ODE.

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. It can include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment also may include inappropriate touching, suggestive comments and public display of pornographic or suggestive calendars, posters, or signs where such images are not connected to any academic purpose. All forms of sexual and sex-based harassment and discrimination are considered serious offenses by the University. For additional information, please see titleix.uconn.edu or call ODE.

Confidential Resources (Storrs Campus)

Student Health Services

Advice Nurse on call 24/7: 860-486-4700* 234 Glenbrook Road, Storrs 860-486-2719 (Appointment Desk) http://shs.uconn.edu/women-health *During semester and summer breaks, advice Nurse available 8:30AM - 4:30PM Daily

Campus Resources (Storrs Campus)

Dean of Students Office

860-486-3426; dos@uconn.edu 8:00AM - 5:00PM Monday - Friday Wilbur Cross Building, Second Floor 233 Glenbrook Road, Storrs

Women's Center

860-486-4738; http://womenscenter.uconn.edu 8:00AM - 5:00PM Monday - Friday 2110 Hillside Road. Storrs

Confidential Advocacy (Off-Campus)

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence Statewide Hotline: 1-888-999-5545 (24/7) **Spanish Hotline:** 1-888-568-8332 (24/7)

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence Statewide Hotline: 1-888-774-2900 (24/7) **Spanish Hotline:** 1-844-831-9200 (24/7)

Additional resources for the regional campuses are online at http://titleix.uconn.edu

Counseling & Mental Health Services

Therapist on call 24/7: 860-486-4705* Arjona Building, 337 Mansfield Road, Storrs http://counseling.uconn.edu *During semester and summer breaks, therapist available 8:30AM - 4:30PM Daily

Department of Residential Life (Storrs)

860-933-2220; http://reslife.uconn.edu RA's and HD on call 24/7 during academic year Rome Commons, Ground Floor 626 Gilbert Road Extension, Storrs