

YOU ARE NOT ALONE



Bay State College

Sexual Violence Resource Guide

**Department of Student Affairs
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Boston, MA 02116
(617) 217-9222**

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INTRODUCTION

If you have survived sexual violence, or know someone who has, please be assured that there are people who care about what you have endured. *You Are Not Alone* is written for survivors of sexual violence, stalking, and relationship violence to provide important information about prohibited conduct, available resources on and off campus, and ways to file a complaint in order to assist survivors in the recovery process and in their efforts to heal from this devastating form of violence.

As a survivor of sexual violence, you are not alone in what happened to you, or in how you feel. It is important for you to know that the feelings, reactions, and questions you may be experiencing are similar to those of other people who have been victimized through no fault of their own. You, as others have, can learn to regain a sense of power over your life. You may feel very isolated and alone, but there are resources and support available and people ready and able to help you. Sexual violence is never the fault of the victim. You are not to blame for what another person has done to you.

Sexual violence of any kind is prohibited by Bay State College and will be responded to accordingly. Bay State College attempts at all times to maintain a safe environment that supports its mission and is free from exploitation and intimidation as well as discrimination based upon sex.

MYTHS & REALITIES

Myth: It could never happen to me.

Reality: Any person of any age, gender, race, class, physical ability, occupation, sexual orientation, or physical appearance can be sexually assaulted.

Myth: Sexual assault is committed in dark alleys by strangers.

Reality: 85-90% of sexual assaults reported by college women are perpetrated by someone known to the survivor. The most common locations are the man's or woman's home in the context of a party or date. (National Institute of Justice, 2008)

Myth: Women give mixed messages because they do not want to admit that they do not want to have sex.

Reality: Rape is a crime for which the perpetrator has sole responsibility. Rape is rape regardless of the relationship between two people, and regardless of the behavior of the survivor.

Myth: Only women are sexually assaulted and only by men.

Reality: Both men and women can be sexually assaulted and assailants can be male or female with any sexual orientation.

Myth: Someone who was drinking or drunk when sexually assaulted is at least partially to blame.

Reality: Sexual assault survivors are never responsible for the attack, no matter what, no matter how much alcohol was consumed. Responsibility lies with the perpetrator; the survivor is never responsible for the assailant's behavior. Alcohol may increase a person's vulnerability, thus increasing the risk of sexual assault and may make someone incapable of giving consent or protecting themselves, but it is not the cause of the assault.

Myth: It is not sexual violence if the couple is dating.

Reality: Unwanted sexual activity in any relationship qualifies as sexual violence.

Myth: If the victim did not fight or try to run away, or there was no weapon or injuries sustained, rape did not occur.

Reality: Threats of violence are a weapon, and a woman may not resist vigorously for fear of injury or death.

THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA

Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) describes the feelings, thoughts, reactions, or symptoms that frequently occur after a sexual assault. It is a form of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and is a natural reaction to the trauma of sexual assault. Every survivor is unique; therefore, the experience of RTS will depend on previous experiences with trauma, resources, personality, and life experiences.

Bodily injury can be easy to detect. However, emotional and mental trauma may be much harder to identify and define. Feeling like you are “going crazy” is common as healing takes time and can sometimes be scary and overwhelming.

Rape Trauma Syndrome has three phases: crisis phase, adjustment phase, and reactivation phase. They do not have to occur in order and they may last longer or shorter for you. They are called phases because they do not last forever.

WHAT IS SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Bay State College defines sexual violence as any of the following offenses:

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is any sexual penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or sexual intercourse by a man or woman upon a man or woman without effective consent. Sexual penetration includes vaginal or anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger and oral copulation by mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact.

Sexual Misconduct

Sexual misconduct is any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object by a man or woman upon a man or woman without effective consent. Sexual touching includes any bodily contact with the breasts, groin, genitals, mouth or other bodily orifice of another or any other bodily contact in a sexual manner. Any disrobing of another or exposure to another by a man or woman without effective consent is considered sexual misconduct.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment consists of any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. This includes, but is not limited to: submission to, or

rejection of, such conduct that is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of employment or participation in an education program; submission to, or rejection of, such conduct that is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting a student; such conduct that has the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's work or academic performance; or such conduct that creates a hostile or intimidating work or academic environment.

Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation occurs when a student takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his/her own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute sexual assault, sexual misconduct, or sexual harassment. Examples of sexual exploitation include, but are not limited to: making public sexual activity with another student without the other student's consent; prostituting another student; non-consensual video- or audio-taping of sexual activity; going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting your friends hide in the closet to watch you having consensual sex); voyeurism; and/or knowingly transmitting a sexually-transmitted infection (STI) or HIV to another student.

Stalking

Stalking is defined as any pattern of conduct that has the purpose or effect of producing fear and/or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. A "pattern of conduct" is defined as two or more times and constitutes a repeated attempt to initiate unwanted, inappropriate, and/or threatening interactions against a particular person or group. Examples of stalking behavior include, but are not limited to: unwelcome communication that can be face-to-face, phone, text, email, voice messages, written messages, gifts, etc.; pursuing and/or following another person or group; surveillance; trespassing; gaining unauthorized access to personal, medical, financial, or any other identifying piece of information without explicit permission; and accessing email, phone, or other forms of personal communication in order to follow or monitor another's activity.

Cyberstalking is an extension of the physical form of stalking and is unacceptable at any level. Using electronic media such as the Internet, social networking sites, cell phones, or similar devices or mediums to pursue, track, harass, monitor, or make unwanted contact with another person is considered stalking.

Relationship Violence

Relationship violence is a pattern of coercive behaviors that serves to exercise control and power in an intimate relationship. The coercive and abusive behaviors can be physical, sexual, psychological, verbal and/or emotional. Relationship violence can occur between current or former intimate partners who have dated, lived together, currently reside together on or off campus, or who otherwise are connected through a past or existing relationship. It can occur in opposite-sex and same-sex relationships. Relationship violence is sometimes referred to as intimate partner violence, domestic violence, or dating violence.

Examples of relationship violence include, but are not limited to: attempting to cause or causing bodily injury by hitting, slapping, punching, hair-pulling, kicking, sexual assault and/or other forms of unwanted physical contact that can cause harm; knowingly restricting the movements of another

person; isolating or confining a person for a period of time; controlling or monitoring behavior; being verbally and/or emotionally abusive; and exhibiting extreme possessiveness or jealousy.

WHAT IS CONSENT

In order for individuals to engage in sexual activity of any type with each other, there must be clear consent. Effective consent is defined as a freely and affirmatively communicated willingness to participate in sexual activity, expressed either by words or clear, unambiguous actions. Bay State College strongly encourages students who choose to engage in sexual behavior to verbally communicate their intentions and consent as clearly as possible. It is the responsibility of the initiator of sexual activity to ensure that he or she has the other person's consent to engage in sexual activity.

Consent cannot be assumed because of the existence of a dating relationship between the persons involved or due to the existence of a previous sexual relationship between the persons. Silence, in and of itself, cannot be interpreted as consent. Consent must be present throughout the sexual activity by all parties involved. Consent to one form of sexual activity cannot imply consent to other forms of sexual activity. The use of alcohol or other drugs does not diminish the perpetrator's responsibility.

Consent may never be given by minors (in Massachusetts, those not yet sixteen (16) years of age), those who are mentally disabled, or by one who is incapacitated as a result of alcohol or other drug consumption (voluntary and involuntary) or those who are unconscious, unaware, or otherwise physically helpless. Incapacitation means being in a state where a person lacks the capacity to appreciate the fact that the situation is sexual, or cannot appreciate (rationally and reasonably) the nature and/or extent of the situation.

AFTER AN ASSAULT

If you or someone you know has been assaulted:

- Go to a safe place as soon as you can.
- Call one or more of the resources below for support. Taking care of yourself is the first step in the healing process after an assault.
- Try to preserve all physical evidence.
- Try not to wash your face or hands, bathe, brush your teeth, drink or eat, or change clothes if you can avoid it. If you do change your clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault in individual paper bags (not plastic). It is important to preserve as much evidence as possible should you later decide to press criminal charges.

24-Hour Services

On-Campus

Student Affairs Emergency After-Hours Number (617) 217-9211

Off-Campus

Boston Police 911 or (617) 343-4911

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (800) 841-8371

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (ER) (617) 754-2323

The College encourages you to seek immediate and follow-up medical attention to assess and treat any physical injuries that you may have sustained, as well as to determine the risk of sexually-transmitted diseases or pregnancy. If you choose, you may also have evidence collected by the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) Nurse at this time to aid criminal prosecution if you later decide to file criminal charges.

WHAT ABOUT THE WAY I FEEL?

Healing emotionally after an incident of sexual violence can be a complex process. One of the most important things you can do to help yourself is to get as much support as possible. People react and cope differently, so it is important to respect your choices and individual style of coping. At the same time, many survivors find it helpful to know that some emotions and reactions tend to be very common. These reactions can be very confusing and upsetting, but they are normal in this situation. Some of the common reactions and emotions people have are:

Guilt: Many survivors feel guilt. We live in a culture that tends to blame the victim. No one deserves to be a victim of sexual violence.

Fear: It is normal to feel afraid after an incident of sexual violence. Sexual violence is frightening. Some survivors find it hard to be alone at night or in a setting that is like the one in which they were victimized.

Avoidance: It is common to avoid or want to avoid anything that has to do with the incident, such as getting assistance, because it reminds you of the incident itself. Although avoidance can initially assist in coping, most survivors find that it is not a long-term solution.

Anger: You might feel angry – at the perpetrator, people you love, yourself, or the world. Feeling angry can be an important part of healing emotionally after the incident.

Mood Swings: Your mood may change rapidly or dramatically. Coping with an incident of sexual violence is overwhelming, and these kinds of intense reactions are normal.

Distrust: It may also take a while to feel like you can trust people again. If you were victimized by someone you knew, you may feel like you've lost confidence in your sense of judgment about other people. If you were victimized by a stranger, you may feel like you can't trust people you don't know.

Loss of Control: Survivors often feel out of control or powerless. They have been robbed of control over their bodies. One of the most important facets of emotional healing from this experience is regaining control.

Numbness: Sometimes it takes a while for survivors to feel anything at all. One of the ways people sometimes cope with crisis is to go numb.

Many stigmas surrounding sexual violence exist in our society that cause people to blame the victim or to state that an incident of sexual violence did not occur, including:

- Your attacker was a friend, family member, partner, lover, or spouse.
- You have previous sexual experience with the person who attacked you.
- You were drinking or using drugs.

- You “froze,” did not or could not say “no,” or were unable to physically harm your attacker.
- You were dressed in clothing that others felt was seductive or revealing.
- Your attacker or anyone else tells you that you are to blame for what happened.
- You willingly decided to be alone and/or intimate with your attacker.

It is important to remember that you are not to blame for what happened to you. No one deserves to be a victim of sexual violence.

Talking about the incident often helps you feel better and take back control of your life, but it may be very hard to do so, especially at first. You may feel very strongly that the best approach for you is to forget that anything happened and to just move on with your life. This is common and can last for months. Unfortunately, many survivors who choose to “move on” eventually reach a point in their lives when they feel the need to address the complex emotions that follow an incident of sexual violence. Please strongly consider talking to a counselor, social worker, hotline volunteer and/or rape crisis counselor. A list of these resources is provided at the end of this Guide.

Deciding to talk with someone may take some time, which is okay. In the meantime, there are some ways that you can take care of yourself:

- Surround yourself with compassionate, supportive people who will validate your emotions and act as a resource.
- Try to remember that you are safe. The incident is over. If you fear for your safety, please talk contact the Boston Police or the Student Affairs staff.
- Try writing or keeping a journal as a way of expressing your emotions and collecting your thoughts.
- Allow yourself more time to relax, exercise, and partake in activities that bring you peace and satisfaction.
- Concentrate on eating a well-balanced diet and getting enough sleep. In addition, stay away from caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol.
- Use recommended stress-reduction techniques like yoga, jogging, aerobics, massage therapy, prayer, and/or meditation.
- Give yourself permission to talk about the incident, if you want to, with those whom you love and trust. Talking about it can help you to heal and take control of your life. Even if it is someone you love and trust, it may be difficult for him or her to listen. However, this person may be able to help you find someone else either on or off campus to support you.

FOR LGTBQ STUDENTS

In addition to the complex thoughts and feelings common to many survivors of sexual violence, members of the LGBTQ community may have special concerns.

The incident of sexual violence may have happened as a part of a hate crime if you were targeted because of your sexual orientation or gender identity. If you have experienced intolerance, hate, or other violence at an earlier time in your life, such an incident can add to the pain of the past. You may be worried that the incident will “out” you if you talk about it or report it to the police. You may feel like people who are supposed to help you will judge you instead. You may fear that if you reach out for help, you will be rejected or misunderstood, which will make the hurt worse. (BARCC, 2012)

We understand your concerns and are here to support you in every way possible to assist you as you heal.

FOR MALE STUDENTS

Sexual violence is devastating to all victims, regardless of gender, and many reactions are shared by both male and female victims. You may feel anger, guilt, fear, distrust, loss of control, and symptoms of physical illness.

However, there are special feelings that may be different for you, such as doubts about your sexuality or masculinity, or reluctance to be examined for medical procedures. You may hesitate to report the incident of sexual violence to the police for fear that they will not believe you. You need to know that at no point and under no circumstances does anyone have the right to violate or control another.

Male survivors receive the same services as women at Bay State College. Emotional support and counseling regarding options are available.

IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS BEEN VICTIMIZED

If you know someone who has been the victim of sexual violence, you may be wondering how to best support that person. Here are some helpful tips:

- Let your friend make decisions. Offer to help but do not take over. Your friend has just been violated and needs to regain control of his or her life.
- Do not touch your friend without first asking permission. Physical contact may or may not be appropriate given what has happened. Ask, "Would you like a hug?" Do not assume that physical contact will be comforting or welcome. Try to ensure that everything you do is comforting.
- Don't blame the survivor for anything. Avoid asking things like, "Were you drinking?" or "Why did you go home with that person?" Focus instead on making the person feel safe and loved.
- Try to deal with your own reactions and emotions later. It is natural for you to feel angry, helpless, confused, or hurt. Try instead to focus on attending to your friend's feelings. Once the survivor's immediate needs are met and he or she is safe, you should consider seeking help from a counselor to talk about the incident and your own self-care.
- Listen and validate everything that your friend is telling you. Do not pass judgment on what you are hearing.
- Do not try to minimize what has happened. While it may be true that "things will be okay" eventually, your friend has experienced a traumatic event and needs support, patience, and validation. Healing takes time.
- Encourage your friend to seek help as soon as possible. Use this Guide to help understand what resources are available. Help your friend to access that support. Ask your friend what he or she needs in terms of help and companionship.
- It is ok to feel uncomfortable if a friend approaches you about a past incident of sexual violence. The best thing to do is acknowledge what your friend is going through and offer to help them find someone else that they can talk to, either on or off campus. There is a list of these resources available on the College's website.

SEEKING MEDICAL ATTENTION

It is highly recommended that you have a thorough medical examination as soon as possible after a sexual assault, even if you do not have any apparent injuries. You may be in shock, and you may have internal injuries of which you are not yet aware. You should also take this opportunity to discuss with a health care provider the risks of sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and pregnancy. Fast medical intervention provides you with some options that may improve your short- and long-term physical health and well-being.

A medical examination is also critical to document and collect any physical evidence of the assault. Certain evidence will disappear as time passes and, for this reason, you should seek medical attention as soon as possible. Evidence collection does not mean that you are required to press charges or pursue action through the College's conduct system. It is your decision as to whether or not you will file a criminal complaint with the police or file a report with the College and this decision does not need to be made immediately. Evidence, once collected, can be kept until you make a decision.

The Student Affairs staff can assist you with transportation to and from the hospital. If you are hurt or alone, please call 911 to receive immediate medical attention.

The following are suggested hospitals in the area for receiving medical attention:

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (ER) – Preferred Hospital
(617) 754-2323

Brigham & Women's Hospital (ER)
(617) 732-5636

Please feel free to bring a loved one, friend, family member, or rape crisis counselor with you to the hospital. A Student Affairs staff member can also accompany you if you would like additional support or do not want to go alone.

Sexual Assault Examinations

The doctor or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Nurse will most likely begin the exam by asking general health-related questions. If you are female, you will be asked about your menstrual history and your current use of contraception. You may also be asked specific questions about the assault so that medical professionals can determine how best to help you. The information is not meant to be intrusive, but rather to help conduct a thorough physical examination. For females, this usually means a pelvic exam. The doctor or SANE Nurse will look for injuries or signs of force. If you have visible physical injuries (bruising, cuts, etc.) you may be asked to consent to having photographs taken. Photographing injuries may be uncomfortable, but it is important to preserve evidence that will disappear over time.

In addition to checking your body for injuries and treating those injuries as appropriate, the doctor or SANE Nurse can collect other forms of evidence. Depending on the types of sexual contact that may have occurred, the examination may include taking samples from the vagina, rectum, and/or mouth to test for sperm cells and semen. Other evidence may be collected from under fingernails, on clothing and underwear, and from other areas of your body that may have come in contact with your assailant.

You may also be asked to take pregnancy and/or other tests to determine the presence of transmittable infections (blood and/or urine tests). These tests will determine what type of treatment you may need.

After the examination is completed, the doctor or SANE Nurse will document the findings in a medical record. This written record can later be subpoenaed to assist in the legal process.

The Risk of STIs from a Sexual Assault

The risk of contracting an STI as a result of a sexual assault depends on a number of factors, including the nature of sexual contact, the number of assailants, and whether the assailant(s) was/were infected with an STI at the time of the assault.

A number of STIs can be contracted during sexual contact, including hepatitis B, gonorrhea, herpes, chlamydia, syphilis, HPV, and vaginitis. Immediate and effective treatment options are available for some of these infections.

Most medical providers will offer sexual assault survivors two choices for addressing the risks of STIs. You may choose to reduce your risk of contracting an STI by taking preventative medication(s) immediately. This may or may not prove to be necessary. You may also elect to wait and see if you test positive for an STI before taking medication. Whatever your decision, you should be reexamined and tested within a specific period of time to ensure that you have not contracted an STI. Discuss with the doctor or SANE Nurse when you should be retested.

The probability of contracting HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) through sexual assault is very low. For you to be at risk, the assailant would have had to be infected with the virus. You should discuss with the doctor or SANE Nurse ways to cope with the unlikely event of contracting HIV as a result of sexual assault and when to be tested.

A criminal court judge can often order a sexual assault suspect to be tested for HIV and other communicable diseases in order to inform the survivor of those results. We suggest that you consult with a rape crisis center, law enforcement professional, or attorney regarding how best to proceed.

The Risk of Pregnancy Resulting from a Sexual Assault

Your individual risk of becoming pregnant as a result of a sexual assault depends on many factors, including your menstrual cycle, your use of contraceptives, your fertility, the fertility of the assailant, and whether the assailant ejaculated in and around your vagina. A doctor or SANE Nurse will help you evaluate your personal risk of pregnancy while at the hospital. They will also review your options.

If you are at risk for pregnancy, a medical care provider will detail the various options available to you. If you choose to seek immediate treatment (emergency contraception), please be aware that this option is most effective within 72 hours after the assault. Emergency contraception is not an abortifacient (i.e. it does not cause an abortion). Emergency contraception prevents pregnancy by stopping ovulation, fertilization, or implantation of a fertilized egg. It is safe and effective.

You may also decide to wait and see if you become pregnant. If you do become pregnant as a result of the assault, a health care provider can discuss your options with you at that time.

REPORTING OPTIONS

The decision to report an incident of sexual violence is solely up to you. Deciding whether or not to report is very difficult for most survivors and may simply not be a step that is possible for you right now. However, please know that the College cares about you and has many resources available to help you in the healing process. Survivors are strongly encouraged to report these incidents to the Student Affairs team and to the Boston Police in order to receive assistance in accessing support services and in filing charges against the alleged offender.

You do not need to make this decision alone. If you are unsure about whether or not to report, there are many people you can speak with in order to get more information about what reporting would mean and entail. You would not be pressured to provide more details than you are willing to offer.

There are 4 individuals at the College to whom you can report an incident of sexual violence:

- Cheryl Raiche, School Counselor
- Dustin Martin, Assistant Director of Residence Life/Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Jeremy Shepard, Assistant Dean of Students/Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Kate O'Hara, Dean of Students/Title IX Coordinator

Counseling Office

Cheryl Raiche
35 Commonwealth Avenue, Second Floor
(617) 217-9212
craiche@baystate.edu

If you wish to keep the details of the incident confidential but would still like to speak with someone at the College, you should report the incident to the School Counselor. Counseling services are available free-of-charge to current students at the College during normal office hours. The Counselor will be able to provide you with short-term support and connect you to additional resources in the Boston area for longer-term support, if needed. The Counselor will also be able to guide you through additional reporting options, both at the College and with local law enforcement, as well as your rights as a survivor.

Department of Student Affairs

Dustin Martin
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9231
dmartin@baystate.edu

Jeremy Shepard
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9218
jshepard@baystate.edu

The Department of Student Affairs offers several different internal options to survivors if the perpetrator is a student at the College:

- 1) Speak to a staff member to gain advice, support, and information. There is no requirement to divulge any information, including your name or the perpetrator's name, or to seek any formal action.
- 2) Give a written report explaining the details of the incident and request that the report be kept on file should you decide to seek action at a later date.
- 3) Give a written report with the name of the perpetrator and ask that he/she be contacted and given a "Stay Away Order," which prevents any type of contact with you. The perpetrator would also be informed that a complaint is outstanding and that further action may be taken at any time the survivor chooses.
- 4) Give a written report and ask that the case proceed through the College's conduct system, including a formal hearing regarding the incident. More detailed information regarding this process can be found in the College's full Sexual Violence Policy, available in the Department of Student Affairs and on the College's website.

Title IX Coordinator

Kate O'Hara
35 Commonwealth Avenue, Third Floor
(617) 217-9225
kohara@baystate.edu

The Title IX Coordinator is available to meet with students to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to adequately address complaints and protect the safety and well-being of survivors.

How to File a Criminal Complaint

If you report an incident of sexual violence to the College, the staff will assist you in filing criminal charges against the alleged offender if you choose. The staff will also help in obtaining protective restraining orders for domestic and dating violence incidents. If the incident occurred off campus, the staff can assist you in informing the appropriate municipal police department if you so desire.

Bay State College takes incidents of sexual violence very seriously and will make all reasonable efforts to preserve confidentiality, restricting information to those with a legitimate need for it. If other policy violations have occurred in connection with an incident of sexual violence, particularly alcohol or substance use/abuse violations, the College generally will not pursue action through the conduct system against the complainant or against student witnesses of the incident.

RESPONSE AND POLICY

When there is reasonable cause to believe a Bay State College student has violated the Code of Conduct, the College will take action in accordance with the established policies and procedures outlined in the *Student Handbook*. Action through the conduct system may be taken whether or not criminal charges are filed and whether the conduct occurred on or off campus.

Retaliation Policy

It is a violation of the Code of Conduct for any individual, whether by his or her self or through agents acting on his or her behalf, to engage in any form of retaliation or intimidation in connection with

complaints of sexual violence. Any such acts of retaliation or intimidation by a member of the College community should be reported to the Dean of Students' Office.

Interim Measures

No Contact/Stay Away Orders

In instances where it has been determined by a College administrator that contact between specific persons may pose an immediate threat to you or may cause concern for your safety or emotional well-being, a No Contact/Stay Away Order may be issued, prohibiting the accused from having any contact with you. Such an order could also require the accused student to adjust his/her academic or work schedule and/or campus housing arrangements.

Summary Suspension

In situations where the alleged offender may pose a threat to your safety or the safety of the community, the Dean of Students or designee may impose on this individual a summary suspension from either housing or the College, pending final resolution of the matter. This means that the accused student would not be permitted to be on campus for any reason, including attendance in classes.

Academic Concerns

Assistance in addressing academic concerns may be requested through the Dean of Students' Office, who will coordinate with Academic Affairs to provide you with reasonable support services and adjustments. These may include, but are not limited to: academic support services such as tutoring, schedule changes, extra time to complete academic requirements, or allowing you to retake or withdraw from a class without penalty. These requests should be made in a timely manner.

Other Interim Measures:

- Assistance with emergency medical treatment, including accompanying you to the hospital or police station.
- Guidance and support with filing charges through the College's conduct system and/or the criminal justice system.
- Assistance in addressing living arrangements.
- Assistance in contacting community resources such as the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

WHERE TO GO FOR SUPPORT

On-Campus Resources

Title IX Coordinator

Kate O'Hara, Dean of Students
35 Commonwealth Avenue, Third Floor
(617) 217-9225
kohara@baystate.edu

Counseling Office

Cheryl Raiche, School Counselor
35 Commonwealth Avenue, Second Floor
(617) 217-9212
craiche@baystate.edu

Dean of Students' Office

Kate O'Hara, Dean
35 Commonwealth Avenue, Third Floor
(617) 217-9225
kohara@baystate.edu

Jeremy Shepard, Assistant Dean
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9218
jsheward@baystate.edu

Office of Residence Life

Dustin Martin, Assistant Director
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9231
dmartin@baystate.edu

Office of Student Activities

Kristin Staine, Assistant Director
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9228
kstaine@baystate.edu

Office of Student Success & Disability Support Services

Sarah Wood, Associate Director
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9246
swood@baystate.edu

Kara Conway, Coordinator
35 Commonwealth Avenue, First Floor
(617) 217-9209
kconway@baystate.edu

Off-Campus Resources

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs)

- Specially trained nurses who provide immediate, compassionate, and comprehensive medical-legal evaluation and treatment.
- SANE Nurses have the experience to anticipate survivor needs during this time of crisis and provide survivors with complete information about choices.
- SANE Nurses are available at the following hospitals. Ask for a SANE Nurse at triage to be escorted to a private area.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (ER) – Preferred Hospital
(617) 754-2323

Brigham & Women’s Hospital (ER)
(617) 732-5636

Counseling & Support

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (24-hour hotline)
(800) 841-8371
www.barcc.org
BARCC is the only rape crisis center in the Greater Boston area.

Fenway Community Health Violence Recovery Program
(617) 927-6250
www.fenwayhealth.org
Provides counseling, support groups, advocacy, and referral services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) victims of bias crime, domestic violence, sexual assault, and police misconduct.

REACH Beyond Domestic Violence (24-hour hotline)
(800) 899-4000
www.reachma.org
Committed to advancing the safety, healing, and empowerment of those who experience domestic or relationship abuse.

The Network La Red (partner abuse hotline)
(617) 742-4911
www.thenetworklared.org
Provides support regarding partner abuse in LGBTQ relationships.

Gay Men’s Domestic Violence Project (24-hour hotline)
(800) 832-1901
www.gmdvp.org
Provides crisis intervention, support, and resources to victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

Jane Doe, Inc.
www.janedoe.org/find_help/search
Comprehensive list of all sexual assault and partner violence resources in Massachusetts.

Reporting and Legal Support

Boston Police Sexual Assault Unit

(617) 343-4400

www.cityofboston.gov/police/divisions/sau_home

Boston Police Domestic Violence Unit

(617) 343-4350

www.cityofboston.gov/police/divisions/dv_home

Victim Rights Law Center

(617) 399-6720

www.victimrights.org

Free legal representation for sexual assault survivors in criminal and civil hearings.

Greater Boston Legal Services

(617) 371-1234

<http://gbls.dbdes.info.our-work/family-law>

Free legal services for domestic violence cases.

References:

You Are Not Alone: Boston College Sexual Violence Policy and Resources,

http://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/offices/dos/pdf/You_Are_Not_Alone.pdf

You Are Not Alone: A Survivor's Guide for Clark University,

<http://www.clarku.edu/offices/dos/survivorguide/Survivor%20Guide.pdf>