

Sexual Assault

It is important for victims to understand that a sexual assault by a person who is known to the victim, including sexual assault by a person who is the spouse of the victim, is a crime. After a sexual assault occurs, victims may be frightened, confused and/or embarrassed, they may even blame themselves, and more. These are emotions which may prevent victims from wanting to tell anyone what happened or seek assistance from law enforcement right away. Victims of sexual assault are not required to participate in the criminal justice system process, nor do they have to participate in a medical forensic examination in order to retain his or her rights under law.

Victims are entitled to a forensic exam, free of charge, which can collect and preserve valuable evidence in the event the victim wants to move forward with an investigation at a later date. Physical evidence can often be present for up to five days following a sexual assault, but will degrade. Collecting evidence as soon as possible after a sexual assault is important for any potential future investigation. But the exam also provides the victim with information and assistance on any resulting health concerns or injuries, resources such as advocacy, and more. Victims may contact the following hospital emergency rooms if they want to participate in a no-cost sexual assault forensic exam:

Rancho Springs Medical Center
25500 Medical Center Dr., Murrieta, CA 92562
Phone 951-696-6000

Riverside University Health System Medical Center
26520 Cactus Ave., Moreno Valley, CA 92555
Phone 951-486-4000

KPC Health Hemet Valley Medical Center
1117 E. Devonshire Ave. Hemet, CA 92543
Phone 951-652-2811

Any victim may request the results of their forensic sexual assault exam by contacting the police station in the jurisdiction where the sexual assault kit was collected. Either the responsible law enforcement agency or crime laboratory will retain the sexual assault forensic evidence for at least 20 years, or if the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offense, at least until the victim's 40th birthday.

All victims of sexual assault are entitled to request protection orders from the court, all of which are included in this guide under "Protection Orders."

Victims of sexual assault have the right to have a sexual assault counselor and at least one other support person of the victim's choosing present at any initial medical evidentiary examination, physical examination, or investigative interview arising out of a sexual assault. A sexual assault counselor or advocate may be contacted 24-hours a day through Rape Crisis or CASA as listed below in this Resource Guide.

Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center (RARCC)

Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center covers all of Riverside County with the exception of Hemet and San Jacinto (see CASA, next) and provides advocacy, counseling, and response services for victims of sexual assault.

Website: www.rarcc.org

E-mail: info@rarcc.org

1845 Chicago Ave. Suite A, Riverside, CA, 92507
Phone 951-868-7273
24-HR. HOTLINE: 951-686-7273/888-686-7273

Reflect. Emerge. Act. Choose. Hope (R.E.A.C.H)

Specializing in the prevention, intervention, and treatment of sexual and domestic violence, childhood trauma, and human trafficking. Located in Hemet. Website: Reachus.org

1600 E. Florida Ave. #206, Hemet, CA 92544
Phone/24-HR. HOTLINE: 866-373-8300

Victims of sexual assault are entitled to a free copy of the initial crime report related to the sexual assault upon written request, regardless of whether the report has been closed by the law enforcement agency. If the defendant is a registered sex offender, the District Attorney will be required to provide the subject's information to the victim upon a written request.

Victims of sexual assault may be entitled to compensation for medical and other costs associated with the sexual assault, as well as may have the potential for government restitution for sexual assault victims if a criminal trial occurs. For information about such programs contact the Riverside County District Attorney's Office Division of Victim Services listed in this Resource Guide. the California Victims' Compensation Program, you may contact 1-800-777-9229 www.Victims.ca.gov



Hemet Police Department's
Victim Resource Guide 2025
Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence

“Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship. Domestic violence includes behaviors that physically harm, arouse fear, prevent a partner from doing what they wish or force them to behave in ways they do not want. It includes the use of physical and sexual violence, threats and intimidation, emotional abuse and economic deprivation.”

- National Domestic Violence Hotline

Domestic Violence or assault by a person who is known to the victim, including domestic violence or assault by a person who is the spouse of the victim, is a crime.

If the suspect was arrested in the incident, it is important to note that despite an official restraint of the person alleged to have committed domestic violence, the restrained person may be released at any time. Although a police report will request charges be filed against the arrested subject, as a victim of Domestic Violence you may ask the district attorney to file a criminal complaint. You may also file a civil suit against the alleged perpetrator for losses suffered as a result of the abuse, including medical expenses, loss of earnings, and other expenses for injuries sustained and damage to property, and any other related expenses incurred by you or any agency that shelters you as the victim.

Children and Domestic Violence

All children in the home are affected by Domestic Violence, including infants. Efforts to hide the abuse from the children are generally unsuccessful as children are very sensitive and attentive to behavior. Children who have witnessed Domestic Violence may “act out” either at home or at school with behavioral problems such as physical or emotional outbursts, they may become isolated, have physical or emotional symptoms, such as headaches, stomachaches, anxiety or depression.

Being in a Domestic Violence relationship can be the most confusing, painful, and difficult part of a victim’s life. Navigating through the turmoil of such violence may be eased in part when support is given so victims realize they are not alone. Please understand Domestic Violence can quickly become deadly, especially when strangulation is present in an abusive relationship. Here are some agencies who can assist you:

SAFE Family Justice Centers Riverside County

Provides advocacy and support services to individuals who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, child/elder abuse and services for at-risk youth.

Website: www.safejc.org

Riverside Family Justice Center
3900 Orange St, Riverside CA 92501
Phone 951-955-6100

Temecula Center
28910 Pujol Street, Temecula, CA 92590
Phone 951-587-3900

Murrieta Center: 30045 Technology Drive STE. 101,
Murrieta, CA 92563 Phone: 951-304-5680

Indio Family Justice Center/County Law Buildin
82.995 Highway 111, Suite 103, Indio, CA 92201
Phone 760-863-8363

Division of Victim Services

Riverside County District Attorney's Office

Provides crime victim assistance. Victims can receive assistance with criminal case updates and accompaniment to court, navigating the criminal justice system, help with medical bills, and emergency assistance. Website: <http://www.rivcoda.org>

Riverside 951-955-5450 / Southwest 951-304-5680/
Murrieta 951-304-5840

Indio 760-863-8408 / Banning 951-922-7136

Alternatives to Domestic Violence

Domestic violence advocacy services. 24-hour crisis line, outreach services, family law court accompaniment, counseling, and community education.

alternativesdomesticviolence.org

HOTLINE: 800-339-7233

Shelter From the Storm

Domestic Violence advocacy and case management outreach services. A bilingual (English and Spanish Speaking) advocate available to provide assistance with safety planning, restraining orders, counseling, and referrals for victims of crime/intimate partner domestic violence. Website: www.shelterfromthestorm.com

73-550 Alessandro Drive, Suite 103
Palm Desert, CA 92260
760-674-0400 Office / 760-674-0440 Fax
HOTLINE: 760-328-7233 / 800-775-6055

Restraining Orders

As a Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault victim, if you are in immediate and present danger, you have the right to request an Emergency Protection Order from law enforcement and the court, otherwise you have the right to go to the Family Law courthouse and file a petition with the court requesting any of the following orders for relief:

- (1) An order directing the suspect to stop contacting, harassing or abusing the victim and/or to leave the household;
- (2) A stay-away order preventing the attacker from being a certain distance from, visiting or entering the residence, school, business, or place of employment of the victim;
- (3) An order awarding the victim or the other parent custody of or visitation with a minor child or children and/or refraining the subject from harassing/molesting the children.

Types of Protection Orders:

Emergency Protective Order (7 calendar days): Obtained by law enforcement/requested from an on-call judge.

Temporary Restraining Order (21 calendar days): Obtained by victim/requested from the Civil Court.

“Permanent” Restraining Order (3-5 years): Obtained/requested from the Civil Court. The victim may also include civil orders between any parties regarding the financial arrangement between the schools etc.

Tribal Restraining Orders (varied time frames): Requested from and issued by a Tribal court for Native Americans. These orders are recognized under Full Faith and Credit and are enforceable in all jurisdictions.

Military Protection Orders or *“Conditions on Liberty:”* Imposed on a member of the military by any commissioned officer who is the commanding officer of the subject, or their authorized delegate. Reasonable belief must exist that an “offense triable by court martial” has been committed. These orders cannot be enforced off the base by civilian law enforcement.