

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT ALEXANDRIA

SUBJECT: SEXUAL ASSAULT

PURPOSE: Louisiana State University at Alexandria strives to provide an environment that supports and encourages student learning and personal development. LSUA students should feel secure when participating in any campus activity or event. To that end, this policy on sexual assault has been developed to emphasize the campus resolve to deal effectively and appropriately with any case of sexual assault on the campus.

GENERAL POLICY

INTRODUCTION

In November 1990, Congress passed the Student-Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act (Public Law 101-542) for the purpose of requiring colleges and universities to publish annual campus security reports that (a) include statistics on campus crime and arrests for certain specified categories of offenses and (b) describe policies, procedures, and programs related to campus security.

In July, 1992, Congress enacted the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 which imposed new requirements for preventing, reporting, and investigating sex offenses that occur on college campuses. The following information has been prepared by Louisiana State University at Alexandria officials not only to comply with federal requirements, but also to assist students, faculty, and staff members' in maintaining an environment which is conducive to achieving the mission of Louisiana State University at Alexandria.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

The Office of Student Services provides professional counselors to assist students, both men and women, develop greater awareness of legal and psychological implications of the phenomenon of sexual assault. Educational literature in the form of brochures and other handouts may be obtained at no charge from Student Services.

RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES IN THE EVENT OF AN ASSAULT

Sexual assault, either by a stranger or by an acquaintance, creates a difficult situation for any individual. Louisiana State University at Alexandria is sensitive to the potential effects of rape and other types of sex offenses and has assembled the following information to assist the victim of a sexual assault and to inform the Louisiana State University at Alexandria student of the resources that may be useful.

Report the assault regardless of the circumstances. Reporting the incident allows the victim to be advised of available resources and alternatives. The strength of the case could be affected by the length of time the victim waits before pressing charges.

On-Campus Assaults

If the incident occurs on the Louisiana State University at Alexandria campus, dial Extension 5500 (Campus Medical Emergency) available from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Campus officials will contact a professional counselor and/or will assist the victim in seeking medical treatment if requested.

Off-Campus Assaults

If the incident occurs off campus, report the crime to your local Sheriff/Police Department or the 24 hour Crisis Line at (318) 445-2022 or 1-800-960-9436.

Seek medical assistance within 24 hours of the assault. A victim does not have to press charges in order to seek medical treatment; however, if criminal charges are pressed, examination and medical information are essential. Police advise the victim not to change clothing, douche, or brush teeth. Very important evidence such as hair samples, saliva samples, finger scrapings, etc. may be lost if not collected immediately. Usual procedures call for a medical examination which will be performed by a physician in the presence of a female nurse. Hospital medical personnel report that the following procedures may take place during a medical examination:

- baseline lab work will be performed to determine existing health concerns.
- evidence will be collected in the event charges are pressed. Note: this step will be taken only with the consent of the victim.
- police will be contacted with the consent of the victim.
- information regarding testing for sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy will be provided.
- information about immediate counseling resources will be provided or referrals for follow-up counseling will be given.

Consider options for actions against the perpetrator.

On-Campus Options

If the incident occurred on the Louisiana State University at Alexandria campus, the victim has the options of (1) pressing criminal charges against the perpetrator with the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or (2) requesting a university administrative review of the incident. An administrative review of the behavior will be conducted when the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs is informed of a possible violation of Louisiana State University at Alexandria's Code of Student Conduct.

It should be noted that any report filed through the University Police or forwarded to the University Police by another law enforcement agency will be immediately forwarded to the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and may prompt an administrative review of the behavior of any Louisiana State University at Alexandria student involved in the incident. If it appears a violation of Louisiana State University at Alexandria's Code of Student Conduct has occurred, an administrative action will be taken. Offenses pertaining to sexual assault may warrant an immediate review by the Louisiana State University at Alexandria Student Conduct Committee.

If a hearing by the Louisiana State University at Alexandria Student Conduct Committee and/or Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs is held, both the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have a representative (either personal or legal counsel) who may attend and advise but may not speak for the student or represent the case to the University. Also, both the accuser and the accused will be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceeding dealing with sexual assault. Sanctions that may be issued by the Student Conduct Committee against a student found guilty of sexual assault are found in the Louisiana State University at Alexandria Code of Student Conduct.

Off-Campus Options

If the incident occurred off the campus, the victim may seek criminal charges against the perpetrator with the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Seek professional counseling and support. Whether the victim chooses to take or not to take legal action against the perpetrator, he/she is advised to seek professional counseling. A sexual assault of any kind can result in difficulty later, if the emotional issues associated with the assault are not addressed. Individuals can contact the Louisiana State University at

Alexandria Office of Student Services during regular working hours. A professional counselor can assist with considering available options and working through the healing process.

DEFINITION AND CRIMINAL STATUS

As defined in the Louisiana State University at Alexandria Code of Student Conduct, a sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will, or not forcibly against the person's will where the victim does not or is incapable of giving consent. The following are some Louisiana criminal statutes related to sexual offenses.

LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES

14:41, 14:42, 14:42.1, 14:43, 14:43.1, 14:43.2, 14:43.3, 14:43.4, 14:43.5, 14:80, 14:81, 14:81.2, 14:89, 14:89.1