

Begin the Healing: Resources for Victims, Bystanders and Supporters

Introduction

Chowan University is committed to providing support and services to you, as a reporting party (someone who has experienced or reported an incident of sexual misconduct which includes; sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking). Chowan University's sexual misconduct policy is a unified policy that applies equally to students, faculty and staff and stipulates Chowan does not condone sexual violence and/or harassment in any form.

We understand that you may be unsure about what you want to do right now. You may not want to do anything. You may just want to talk to someone. You may just want some support, or need accommodations. You may want to pursue an investigation. You have options. We are here to help you with those options. This document informs you of your options, steps Chowan University can take to support you, services available to you, and your rights during an investigation, should you decide you want to pursue one.

Although this document is about the university's internal administrative process, if you want to pursue criminal charges, we can help. You have the right to pursue both criminal and administrative charges; you do not need to choose one or the other. You can find more information about reporting options at: <https://chowan.edu/titleix>

Preservation of Evidence

If you have experienced sexual assault, there are specific procedures you can follow to preserve evidence including completing a Rape Kit at Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital in Ahoskie.

Preserving Evidence for Sexual Assaults - Physical evidence is crucial in helping to prosecute assailants in cases of rape or sexual assault. Physical evidence must be collected in a timely manner by a certified medical facility. Prior to a medical/legal exam, victims 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 victims 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.

Preserving Evidence for Victims of Violence - Victims of violence should not bathe or change clothes prior to documentation of physical evidence. Preserving evidence may be necessary to prove criminal domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or in obtaining a protection order. If victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries.

Preserving Evidence for Victims of Stalking - Victims of stalking should save evidence such as any letters, notes, emails, phone calls, videos, photos, texts, social media postings (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), computer screenshots, voicemails, or any other form of evidence that would be helpful.

If you would like to have a Rape Kit completed, Chowan University Public Safety can accompany you; however, you may go to a local hospital on your own and received the same services. You do not need to

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file charges against someone in order to complete a rape kit. You can remain anonymous. If you are concerned about paying for the exam or your parents receiving an insurance bill, don't worry. There is no cost associated with obtaining a rape kit, and you do not need to provide any insurance information. Regardless of the type of misconduct you have experienced, please retain any electronic records, including texts, emails, photos, and social media postings in case you decide that you want to pursue an administrative and/or criminal investigation. Electronic records can also be helpful for purposes of obtaining an order of protection through the courts.

Reporting

How to Report

Please do not delay your safety or compromise the safety of other community members. Please report any sexual misconduct to Chowan University Public Safety at (252)398-1234 or by calling 911.

Reporting of a formal complaint of the Sexual Misconduct Policy can also be made in person or orally to an appropriate official, but the University strongly encourages submission of grievances in writing, by email attachment as a MS Word or pdf document, in other written form to TitleIX@chowan.edu. You may also complete the online form by visiting <https://chowan.edu/title-ix-discrimination-complaint-form>.

Off Campus

911

Campus

- Chowan University Employees
University employees **must** report any information regarding violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy to the Title IX Coordinator.
- Dr. Brenda Tinkham
Marks Hall 212B
252-398-6437 | tinkhb@chowan.edu
- Two Chowan employees, listed below, may act as confidential resources and will not make a report to the Title IX Coordinator unless specifically requested to do so by the complainant or as required by law:
 - Drew Phillips, Associate Minister to the University
Hawks Nest
252-398-6383 | philld@chowan.edu
 - Yolanda Majette, University Counselor
Hawks Nest
252.398.6249 | majety@chowan.edu
- Title IX Information
The following are other campus resources who are required to report any information regarding violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy to the Title IX Coordinator.
 - Public Safety
401 Union Street
252-398-1234 | publicsafety@chowan.edu
 - Joy Taylor, Campus Nurse
Penny Hall
252-398-6248 | tayloj2@chowan.edu

Confidentiality

The University makes every effort to protect the privacy and confidentiality of people who report or are named in a report of sexual misconduct. Information reported will be shared only on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with applicable policies and procedures. Which policies and procedures are applicable

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depends on whether the people involved are students or employees; students' rights are protected by federal law and the Student Privacy and Records Policy and the applicable procedure is the Sexual Misconduct Procedure, while employees' rights are governed by state and University policy.

Mandated public disclosures of sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking offenses are made without including personally identifiable information. This means, for example, that the University's Daily Crime Log does not include names. The Chowan University Department of Public Safety staff responsible for these disclosures are trained in appropriate protocols and the need to protect privacy.

Rights to Notify Law Enforcement

Sexual assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking complainants are entitled to certain rights which shall be recognized and provided by Chowan University. Among these are:

- The right to notify proper law enforcement authorities and the option to be assisted by University personnel in notifying such authorities.
- The right to have an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking investigated and adjudicated by the campus conduct system; and the right to full and prompt cooperation and assistance in the campus disciplinary process.
- The right to decline the notification of law enforcement authorities.

Chowan University Public Safety

401 Union Street
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
252-398-1234 or 911

Murfreesboro Police Department

115 East Broad Street
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
(252)398-4151 or 911

Interim Steps & Services for Victims

Chowan University wants to ensure your continued equal access to educational programs and activities and to protect your safety and well-being. You do not have to pursue an investigation to receive resources and support. Upon making a report to us, you are immediately protected from retaliation by the respondent (the person who is reported as committing the misconduct) and others affiliated with him or her. This right extends to anyone affiliated with you, such as family members and any potential witnesses, should you decide you want to pursue an investigation. Interim measures are designed to prevent retaliation, prevent the continuation or recurrence of misconduct and prevent the creation of (or remedy) a hostile environment. Most of these measures (listed below) may be taken even if you do not wish to initiate an investigation. We will maintain as confidential any accommodations or interim measures provided to you, to the extent feasible. Interim measures that would require disclosure of your identity to the respondent, such as a no contact order, for example, barring exceptional circumstances, would not be implemented without your consent or request. Possible interim measures available to you include but are not limited to:

- No contact orders, which will ban further contact from the respondent. For more information about Chowan no contact orders, please review the No Contact Order section in the Student Handbook. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6437 /Residence Life (252)398-6237
- If you wish to obtain a civilly processed Domestic Violence Protection Order or No Contact Order, please contact Chowan University Public Safety, (252)398-1234.
- Reasonable academic accommodations, Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6437
- Financial aid assistance for an underload, work study assignment, etc. Note that this is subject to limitations imposed by federal law and the terms of the relevant financial aid, Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6437.

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- Changing residential locations. Please note that you will not be required to change residences, but it is an option available to you. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6437/Residence Life (252)398-6237
- Employee job adjustments, Title IX Coordinator in conjunction with Director of Human Resources. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6237

Free Support Services Available to You

(You do not have to pursue an investigation to access these support services)

@ Chowan University

- Medical services from the Wellness Center located in Penny Hall.,
- Counseling and Mental Health Services, University Counselor, (252)398-6249
- Academic Accommodations, Title IX Office, (252)398-6437
- Visa and immigration assistance for international students available through the Registrar's Office, (252)398-6232
- Victim Advocacy, Campus Ministry Office, (252)398-6268
- Legal Assistance- Chowan refers student to Legal Aid services in Ahoskie.

Outside Chowan University, Local Resources

- Integrated Family Services
228 W Main St, Ahoskie, NC 27910
(252) 209-0388
- Vidant Roanoke Chowan Hospital
500 South Academy Street
Ahoskie, NC 27910
252-209-3000
- Roanoke-Chowan Service for Abused Families with Emergencies (S.A.F.E.)
P.O. Box 98
Ahoskie, NC 27910
252-332-1933 | www.roanokechowansafe.com
- Murfreesboro Police Department
115 East Broad Street
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
252-398-4151 | <http://bit.ly/2aGw5qv>
- Murfreesboro Primary Care
3015 Beachwood Boulevard
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
252-398-3323 | <http://www.rcchc.org/murfreesboro-primary-care.html>
- Legal Aid of NC
1610 E. Church St.
Ahoskie, NC
866-219-5262

Chowan University Conduct Process for Sexual Misconduct Allegations

