



The first step of educating the community in the fight against sexual assault is to show the public how the criminal sexual conduct law works to protect them. The University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) Department of Public Safety has provided University resources and several local agencies that offer educational programs which provide techniques to avoid sexual assault and date rape.

Prevention programs and prompt reporting of sexual assault are essential to help keep the University community safe from these often traumatic incidents. Sexual assault education also helps to encourage those that have been victimized to report the offense.

This policy applies to students, employees, contractors, consultants, temporary help and other workers at the University of Detroit Mercy, including all personnel affiliated with third parties.

Sexual assault is a physical assault forced upon an individual who does not or cannot consent and involves a sexual act or an attempted sexual act with that individual. Sexual assault includes, but is not limited to sexual intercourse. Sexual assaults are acts of violence used to humiliate, dominate and overpower another person.

Filing a police report will:

- Ensure that a victim of sexual assault receives the necessary medical treatment and test, at no expense to the victim
- Provide the opportunity for collection of evidence helpful in prosecution which may not be obtained later (ideally a victim of sexual assault should not wash, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing prior to a medical/legal exam)
- Assure the victim has access to free confidential counseling from counselors specifically trained in the area of sexual assault crisis intervention.

When a sexual assault victim contacts the UDM Department of Public Safety, the Detroit Police Department Sex Crimes Unit will be notified as well. The Dean of Students shall be notified of student related incidents.

The victim of a sexual assault may choose for the investigation to be pursued through the criminal justice system and the UDM judicial process, or only the latter. A UDM representative from the Department of Public Safety or a representative from the Student Affairs Division will guide the victim through the available options and support the victim in his or her decision.

Various counseling options are provided by UDM Student Health Center, University Ministries, and Personal Counseling Services. Employees needing additional assistance may contact the Human Resources Department to discuss applicable health care benefits

and services. Counseling and support services outside the University can be obtained through the Student Handbook, Personal