

Resolution in support of standardized protocol for processing complaints of sexual assault followed by law enforcement agencies in the state of Texas

WHEREAS, victims of sexual assault are traumatized, and

WHEREAS, victims of sexual assault are often disinclined to report assault to law enforcement, and

WHEREAS, increasing the propensity of victims of sexual assault to report the assault to law enforcement will result in increased opportunities for conviction of assailants and thus decrease sexual assaults in Texas,

RESOLVED that there should be a standardized protocol for processing complaints of sexual assault followed by law enforcement agencies in the state of Texas.

Adopted by the Ellis county convention on March 24, 2018.

Addendum to the Resolution in support of standardized protocol for processing complaints of sexual assault followed by law enforcement agencies in the state of Texas

Suggested Protocol:

1. Victim reports assault to law enforcement officer.
2. Law enforcement officer determines if victim is in need of emergency medical attention.
3. If victim needs emergency medical attention, said medical attention will be provided.
4. If victim does not require emergency medical attention or as soon as practical after stabilization, victim will be provided address and directed to nearest medical facility with Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner.
5. Victim placed in contact with or provided contact information for Sexual Assault Victim's Advocate.
6. Victim will be informed that Rape Kit Examination will not require up front payment along with shelter availability.
7. Law enforcement officer will coordinate with Sexual Assault Victim's Advocate to take initial report from victim.
8. Regardless of degree of skepticism, law enforcement officer will avoid discouraging victim from registering complaint.