

What is Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Assault?

Sexual misconduct offenses include, but are not limited to:

1. Sexual Harassment
2. Non-Consensual Sexual Contact (or attempts to commit same)
3. Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse (or attempts to commit same)
4. Sexual Exploitation
5. Retaliation in connection with any of these offenses
6. Stalking
7. Dating Violence
8. Domestic Violence

Sexual assault is a serious violent crime. It is a crime of hostility and aggression, as well as a violation of human dignity. Sexual assault is also a very sensitive crime which is unique in its physical and mental impact upon the alleged complainant. When it occurs at Bellarmine University, it is also a flagrant violation of University standards and will not be tolerated.

Possible Reactions to Sexual Misconduct

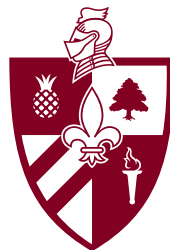
If you or someone you know experiences sexual assault, please seek medical assistance. Victims of sexual assault can experience a variety of responses, whether physical and/or emotional.

Some common reactions include: pain, nausea, insomnia, shame or embarrassment, anxiety, sense of responsibility, loss of control, fear of being blamed, disbelief and lack of focus.

Resources

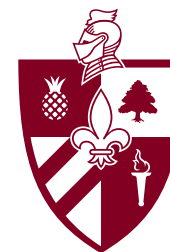
- BU Counseling Center - 502.272.8480
www.bellarmine.edu/studentaffairs
- BU Safety & Security - 502.272.7777
- BU Residence Life - 502.272.7272
- BU Dean of Students Office - 502.272.8150
- Louisville Metro Police - 502.574.7111
www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroPolice
- Center for Women and Families - 877.803.7577
www.thecenteronline.org. This is toll free 24/7 hotline. They can provide consultations, a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) exam, and an advocate for assistance.
- University of Louisville ER - 502.562.3015
www.university-hospital.org/programs-services/trauma-center/
- Norton Audubon Hospital - 502.636.7111
www.nortonhealthcare.com/nortonaudubonhospital

Sexual Misconduct & Advocacy Resources



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How to Get Help

Medical Resources

Seek medical attention. Victims of sexual assault are urged to seek medical attention. In addition to ensuring an individual's personal safety, medical centers are staffed by professionals trained to assist victims of sexual violence. Additionally, medical centers, as well as rape crisis centers, are equipped with critical forensic testing capabilities that provide for evidence collection within 72 hours of an attack. Evidence from a sexual assault can be held for up to 30 days by law enforcement while you decide whether to prosecute.

Do not change your clothes, shower, rinse your mouth, or use the bathroom. Do not wash or destroy clothing or other physical evidence. If you have changed the clothes you were wearing at the time, bring them to the hospital in a paper, not plastic bag. If you are still wearing the clothes, bring a change of clothing to the hospital with you.

The best off-campus resources are:

- The Center for Women and Families, 1.877.803.7577 (24 hour Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Line 581.7222) 927 South Second Street, Louisville, KY 40201
- University of Louisville Hospital 530 S. Jackson St. Louisville, KY 40202

For survivors who choose not to have the forensic exam: medical exams, consultation, and follow-up care (including testing for sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy) are available at Bellarmine University's Health Services Clinic (502.272.8493) and the University of Louisville Hospital, among other local clinics.

Talk With Someone

You can call the Center for Women and Families Rape Crisis Program, 24 hours a day / 7 days a week to speak to an advocate: 877.803.7577. The Center is located at 927 S. Second Street; Louisville, KY 40201.

If the assault took place on campus, you can call the Department of Safety & Security at 502.272.7777. If the assault took place off campus, you can call 911 and you will be asked if the crime occurred in Louisville or Jefferson County.

Seek professional counseling. No matter how long ago the assault occurred, having a safe and confidential place to talk is crucial to your healing process. These services are free and confidential at the Bellarmine University Counseling Center. Call 502.272.8480 to schedule an appointment or visit www.bellarmino.edu/studentaffairs/counselingcenter.

Reporting

There are several options for reporting a sexual assault.

- A student may not report, report to a campus staff person, and/or report to police.
- Confidential resources on campus are the Counseling Center and Health Services staff members. All other faculty and staff members on campus are non-confidential resources, meaning that they have a duty to report. Students may make formal reports to the Department of Campus Safety and Security, Dean of Students Office, or the Office of Human Resources. A detailed review of the reporting process is available in the Student Handbook and Sexual Misconduct Policy web site available here: www.bellarmino.edu/studentaffairs
- Reports can be made to the Louisville Metro Police by calling 911. Reporting the incident on campus does not mean that 911 will be called automatically.

Support at School

The University makes every effort to ensure the safety and well-being of all students. The University prohibits retaliation of any sort. Such behavior should be reported to the Department of Safety and Security, the Dean of Students, or local law enforcement. The following interim orders may be made in cases of sexual misconduct.

Interim Protective Orders - The Dean of Students or his/her designee may issue an interim "no contact" order to help ensure that the complainant is not harassed by the alleged respondent. Such interim measures will be in effect through the end of the student conduct hearing process, and may be extended after the hearing.

Living Arrangements - When the complainant and the alleged respondent in a sexual assault case live in campus housing, alternative living arrangements for the respondent and/or the complainant may be made when reasonably available and if so requested by the complainant.

Advocate - The right to confer with an advocate of not more than one person to be chosen by the complainant from the Bellarmine University campus community (student, faculty, or staff member) to help prepare information to present at the hearing.

Academic Considerations - Should the complainant and alleged respondent be enrolled in the same class, alternative class assignments may be made when reasonably available, and if requested by the complainant.

Support a Friend

If your friend is a victim of sexual assault, even though it may feel overwhelming, you can help them find some relief.

- Listen.
- Reassure your friend that they are not to blame for the assault.
- Avoid asking "why" questions. They may make your friend feel as if you're investigating, or they are to blame, or you don't believe them.
- Encourage them to seek immediate support.
- Find a safe place to get support for yourself.