



**SINGAPORE  
POLICE FORCE**  
SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY

# Reporting Sexual Assault Cases

*Investigation and Court  
Processes*

## Support Services

If you or a loved one are a victim of a sexual assault, the following services can provide you with support and advice:

### **Samaritans of Singapore (SOS)**

Helpline: 1800 221 4444 (24-hour)  
Email Befriending: [pat@sos.org.sg](mailto:pat@sos.org.sg)

*Provides confidential emotional support to individuals facing a crisis, thinking about or affected by suicide*

### **Witness Support Programme**

Helpline: 1800-JUSTICE (1800 587 8423)  
(Monday to Thursday: 8.30am to 6pm;  
Friday: 8.30am to 5.30pm)  
Email: [STATECOURTS\\_CENTRE\\_FOR\\_SPECIALIST\\_SERVICES@statecourts.gov.sg](mailto:STATECOURTS_CENTRE_FOR_SPECIALIST_SERVICES@statecourts.gov.sg)

*Provides support to vulnerable witnesses in criminal cases who have to give evidence in court against alleged perpetrators*

*This pamphlet is jointly produced by the Singapore Police Force and the Ministry of Law.*

## What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault includes the following offences:

- ⇒ Rape
- ⇒ Sexual assault by penetration
- ⇒ Sexual penetration of minor
- ⇒ Sexual grooming of minor
- ⇒ Sexual abuse and exploitation of child or young person
- ⇒ Procurement of sexual activity with person with mental disability
- ⇒ Outrage of modesty

**Sexual assault is a heinous crime. The Police take all reports of sexual assault cases seriously.**

If you are a victim of sexual assault or know of someone who is, report the incident to the Police. You may report the case regardless of when it happened. The information you give to the Police could bring a criminal to justice and prevent further harm to other persons.

**Call 999 if you require immediate assistance from the Police, or visit the nearest Neighbourhood Police Centre to speak to a police officer. Your identity will be protected.**

## What Happens after I Talk to a Police Officer about the Assault?

### During Investigation

Sexual assault can be a traumatic and confusing experience, even more so if you know the perpetrator. The Singapore Police Force adopts a victim-centric approach in our investigation process.

**1.** An officer trained in victim care will help you with the report lodging process. The officer will interview you briefly in a private room. Your identity will be protected.

**2.** You will be referred to an Investigation Officer (IO) specially trained to handle sexual assault cases. The IO will record a statement from you. A statement is a recorded account of what happened to you or what you saw.

**3.** If you require emotional support, you may request the assistance of a Victim Care Officer.

**4.** You may be brought to the OneSAFE Centre if forensic medical examination is required.

**5.** The IO will provide you periodic updates on investigation.

### During Prosecution

If the perpetrator is prosecuted in court, you may be required to testify in court should the perpetrator claim trial. There are processes in place to support you as fully as possible.

- ⇒ Your identity will be protected.
- ⇒ You can choose to testify in a closed-door hearing.
- ⇒ You may be allowed to testify behind a physical screen in the courtroom so that you do not have to see the perpetrator.
- ⇒ The court may also allow you to give evidence through video link in a room outside the courtroom.
- ⇒ Your sexual history with persons other than the perpetrator, that does not relate to the charge, cannot be asked about unless the court allows it.

You may also watch the video at [http://bit.ly/spf\\_victimsupport](http://bit.ly/spf_victimsupport) for more information on the reporting of sexual assault cases.

## Forensic Medical Examination

A forensic medical examination is done by a doctor and a nurse to look for and document injuries. They may also collect clothing, hair samples and intimate swabs from your body. These could be used as evidence in police investigation and any subsequent prosecution against the perpetrator.

It is most useful if the examination is conducted as soon as possible in order to preserve evidence. Before the examination, the doctor, nurse and IO will explain the procedures to you. You can ask them any questions you have about the procedures.

The One-Stop Abuse Forensic Examination (OneSAFE) Centre, located at the Police Cantonment Complex, offers convenience and privacy to you. Here, you can speak to a Victim Care Officer and the Police. You can also have the forensic medical examination conducted at the Centre.



OneSAFE Forensic Medical Examination Room