

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COLLABORATION

Recommitment to Memorandum of Understanding



May 7, 2025

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As members of the Ramsey County Sexual Assault Protocol Team, law enforcement leadership signed a [Memorandum of Understanding on April 4, 2019](#), that promoted and executed an interagency response to sexual assault victims/survivors which promoted consistency, respect, and a victim-centered response.

NEW COMMITMENTS

Today, we recognize the efforts and improvements that have taken place since then, pledge the efforts made will continue to improve, and acknowledge additional areas of opportunities for growth. Law enforcement, prosecutors, and Ramsey County victim/survivor advocates commit to the following:

- Provide and support culturally responsive and trauma-informed training to better serve victims/survivors of all backgrounds, especially those identified in the Minnesota Justice Research Center's Report entitled "[I want to be heard](#)," dated August 19, 2024.
- Invest in retention of designated investigators trained in sexual assault investigations.
- Enhance commitment to community advocacy and victim/survivors by involving an advocate early and consistently throughout the investigation process.
- Support additional resources for community advocates to assist law enforcement and better serve all victim/survivors of sexual assault.

CURRENT OUTCOMES AND CONTINUING COMMITMENTS

On April 4, 2019, all law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and victim/survivor agencies agreed to implement the following improvement efforts as outlined in the [2019 Implementation Plan for Systems Change](#):

- Law enforcement will invite advocates to all investigative interviews with victims/survivors of sexual assault.
- Law enforcement will provide training for all patrol officers on sexual violence to promote a victim-centered response to reports of sexual assault.

- Law enforcement will conduct in-person investigative interviews with victims/survivors of sexual assault, following best practices for a trauma-informed approach.
- A better tracking system of sexual assault will be created by law enforcement and prosecution so that cases do not slip through the cracks.
- Investigators and prosecutors will improve collaboration to increase the number of cases charged in Ramsey County, bringing more perpetrators to justice.

Since then, the following outcomes are present:

- Biannual training for all new patrol officers.
- Monthly meetings, with continuous training, for sex assault investigators.
- Designation of law enforcement investigators specific to sexual assault.
- Improved and expedited forensic exams for suspects and improved focus on victim's/survivor's sex assault exams.
- Increased advocacy partnership through a digital referral process and advocate attendance at the CSC workgroup meetings.
- A specialized prosecutor for CSC cases leading to a 68% charging rate of CSCs.
- Designated CSC trial prosecutors to handle the most difficult, high risk sex crimes cases.

A COMMITMENT FOR CONTINUED COLLABORATION

Recommitting to this collaborative effort will strengthen our county's response to sexual assault and honor victims/survivors who have been seeking justice. We pledge ongoing and expanded resources, reinforce cross-agency collaboration, and deepen community engagement to ensure justice, healing, and continuous improvement in how sexual assault cases are addressed countywide. Together, we can create a more effective system that prioritizes victim's/survivor's needs while ensuring fairness and accountability.