

# Community Legal Aid

A non-profit law firm serving the legal needs of low-income individuals and families in central northeast Ohio



[www.communitylegalaid.org](http://www.communitylegalaid.org)

---

## What to Do After an Assault

What to do after an assault

- **Preserve the evidence.** Do not bathe, brush, comb or clean any part of your body. Do not wash or change your clothes. Don't touch or change anything at the scene of the assault.
- **Get to a hospital ER** as soon as possible. Ask for a SANE nurse (sexual assault nurse examiner). You can be tested for STDs and pregnancy. Even if you're not sure you want to press charges, the rape kit preserves evidence until you are ready to decide what to do.
- A rape crisis counselor can help you during this process.

### **Feeling safe after an assault.**

? **Use campus resources.** Colleges provide free resources, including health and psychology services, security escorts, and sexual assault services.

? **Request a change in housing or class schedule.** Under federal law, if you share a class or residence building with the perpetrator, your request to change residence hall or class must be honored.

? If you feel more comfortable, get help at an off-campus sexual assault service provider, rape crisis center or domestic violence shelter.

? **You can get a protection order (even if you don't file criminal charges or aren't a U.S. citizen).** A person who has who been sexually assaulted can seek a protection order. A court also can grant a protection order against anyone helping or participating in a sexual assault. There are different types of protection orders. Talk to a rape crisis counselor or domestic violence advocate about which best protects you.

### **Know your resources.**

? Locate campus resources- health center, campus police, sexual assault service provider, and emergency phone locations. Save the campus emergency number in your cell phone.

- Call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673) or chat at [online.rainn.org](http://online.rainn.org) for free confidential support 24/7.

### **Know your resources.**

? Locate campus resources- health center, campus police, sexual assault service provider, and emergency phone locations. Save the campus emergency number in your cell phone.

- Call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673) or chat at [online.rainn.org](http://online.rainn.org) for free confidential support 24/7.

***You have the right to feel safe. You are not alone. These agencies can help you.***

### Columbiana County

Christina's House 330-428-0036

### Mahoning County

Compass Family & Community Services

330-782-3936

[www.compassfamily.org](http://www.compassfamily.org)

### Medina County

Rape Crisis Center of Medina & Summit Cos.

330-434-7273 or 1-877-906-7273

[www.rccmsc.org](http://www.rccmsc.org)

Portage County

Town Hall II 678-4357 or 866-449-8518

[www.townhall2.com](http://www.townhall2.com)

Trumbull County

Rape Crisis Team of Trumbull Co. 211 or

330-393-1565

Stark County

Alliance Rape Crisis Program 330-812-RAPE

[www.communityservicesofstark.org](http://www.communityservicesofstark.org) or

Red Cross Rape Crisis Center 330-452-1111

[www.redcross.org/oh/canton](http://www.redcross.org/oh/canton)

Summit County

Rape Crisis Center of Medina & Summit Cos.

330-434-7273 or 1-877-906-7273

Wayne County

Every Woman's House

330-263-1020 (24-hour crisis hotline)

1-800-686-1122 (toll free)

[www.everywomanshouse.o](http://www.everywomanshouse.o)

This article is meant to give you general information and not to give you specific legal advice.

Prepared by Community Legal Aid Services, Inc. Updated April 2016  
CLAS

CE-37-F610-

[www.rccmsc.org](http://www.rccmsc.org)

 [What to do after an assault.pdf](#)

---

Printed: August 10, 2020

<http://www.communitylegalaid.org/node/260/what-do-after-assault>

©Community Legal Aid