

# Begin the Healing: Resources for Victims, Bystanders, and Supporters

## Introduction

Chowan University is committed to providing support and services to you, as a reporting party (someone who has experienced or reported an incident of sexual misconduct which includes; sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking). Chowan University's sexual misconduct policy is a unified policy that applies equally to students, faculty and staff and stipulates Chowan does not condone sexual violence and/or harassment in any form.

We understand that you may be unsure about what you want to do right now. You may not want to do anything. You may just want to talk to someone. You may just want some support, or need accommodations. You may want to pursue an investigation. You have options. We are here to help you with those options. This document informs you of your options, steps Chowan University can take to support you, services available to you, and your rights during an investigation, should you decide you want to pursue one.

Although this document is about the university's internal administrative process, if you want to pursue criminal charges, we can help. You have the right to pursue both criminal and administrative charges; you do not need to choose one or the other. You can find more information about reporting options at: <https://chowan.edu/titleix>

## Preservation of Evidence

If you have experienced sexual assault or know someone that has, there are specific procedures you can follow to preserve evidence including completing a Rape Kit at ECU Health Roanoke-Chowan Hospital in Ahoskie.

As time passes, evidence may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, possible prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or obtaining orders of protection related to the incident more difficult. If a victim chooses not to make a complaint regarding an incident, he/she nevertheless should consider speaking with Chowan University Police or other law enforcement agencies to preserve evidence in the event that the victim changes his/her mind at a later date.

**Preserving Evidence for Sexual Assaults** - Physical evidence is crucial in helping to prosecute assailants in cases of rape or sexual assault. Physical evidence must be collected in a timely manner by a certified medical facility. Prior to a medical/legal exam, victims of rape or assault should not bathe, change clothes, douche, use the toilet (if possible), smoke or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 96 hours so that the evidence may be preserved. If victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted diseases.

**Preserving Evidence for Victims of Violence** - Victims of violence should not bathe or change clothes prior to documentation of physical evidence. Preserving evidence may be necessary to prove criminal domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or in obtaining a protection order. If victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries.

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For complete information and details on Chowan's Title IX and Gender Equity Policy, please visit <https://chowan.edu/titleix>

**Preserving Evidence for Victims of Stalking** - Victims of stalking should save evidence such as any letters, notes, emails, phone calls, videos, photos, texts, social media postings (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), computer screenshots, voicemails, or any other form of evidence that would be helpful.

If you would like to have a Rape Kit completed, Chowan University Public Safety can accompany you; however, you may go to a local hospital on your own and received the same services. You do not need to file charges against someone in order to complete a rape kit. You can remain anonymous. If you are concerned about paying for the exam or your parents receiving an insurance bill, don't worry. There is no cost associated with obtaining a rape kit, and you do not need to provide any insurance information. Regardless of the type of misconduct you have experienced, please retain any electronic records, including texts, emails, photos, and social media postings in case you decide that you want to pursue an administrative and/or criminal investigation. Electronic records can also be helpful for purposes of obtaining an order of protection through the courts.

## Reporting

### How to Report

Please do not delay your safety or compromise the safety of other community members. Please report any sexual misconduct to Chowan University Public Safety at (252)398-1234 or by calling 911.

Reporting of a formal complaint of the Sexual Misconduct Policy can also be made in person or orally to an appropriate official, but the University strongly encourages submission of grievances in writing, by email attachment as a MS Word or pdf document, in other written form to [TitleIX@chowan.edu](mailto:TitleIX@chowan.edu). You may also complete the online form by visiting [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?ChowanUniv&layout\\_id=4](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?ChowanUniv&layout_id=4).

#### **Off Campus**

911

#### **Campus**

- Chowan University Employees  
University employees **must** report any information regarding violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy to the Title IX Coordinator.
- Dr. John Dilustro  
2<sup>rd</sup> Floor Columns Building  
252-398-6528 | [titileix@chowan.edu](mailto:titileix@chowan.edu)
- The Chowan employee(s), listed below, may act as confidential resources, and will not make a report to the Title IX Coordinator unless specifically requested to do so by the complainant or as required by law:
  - Joy Taylor, School Nurse  
Student Health Services, Penny Hall  
252-398-6248 | [taylorj2@chowan.edu](mailto:taylorj2@chowan.edu)
- Title IX Information  
The following are other campus resources who are required to report any information regarding violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy to the Title IX Coordinator.
  - Public Safety  
110 Hawks Dr. - Penny Hall  
252-398-1234 | [publicsafety@chowan.edu](mailto:publicsafety@chowan.edu)

## Confidentiality

The University makes every effort to protect the privacy and confidentiality of people who report or are named in a report of sexual misconduct. Information reported will be shared only on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with applicable policies and procedures. Which policies and procedures are applicable depends on whether the people involved are students or employees; students' rights are protected by federal law and the Student Privacy and Records Policy and the applicable procedures is the Sexual Misconduct Procedure, while employees' rights are governed by state and University policy.

Mandated public disclosures of sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking offenses are made without including personally identifiable information. This means, for example, that the University's Daily Crime Log does not include names. The Chowan University Department of Public Safety staff responsible for these disclosures are trained in appropriate protocols and the need to protect privacy.

## Rights to Notify Law Enforcement

Sexual assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking complainants are entitled to certain rights which shall be recognized and provided by Chowan University. Among these are:

- The right to notify proper law enforcement authorities and the option to be assisted by University personnel in notifying such authorities.
- The right to have an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking investigated and adjudicated by the campus conduct system; and the right to full and prompt cooperation and assistance in the campus disciplinary process.
- The right to decline the notification of law enforcement authorities.

<p><b>Chowan University Public Safety</b> Penny Hall Murfreesboro, NC 27855 252-398-1234 or 911</p>	<p><b>Murfreesboro Police Department</b> 115 East Broad Street Murfreesboro, NC 27855 (252)398-4151 or 911</p>	<p><b>Hertford County Sherriff</b> 701 Taylor St. Winton, NC 27986 (252)358-7800 or 911</p>
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## Interim Steps & Services for Victims

Chowan University wants to ensure your continued equal access to educational programs and activities and to protect your safety and well-being. You do not have to pursue an investigation to receive resources and support. Upon making a report to us, you are immediately protected from retaliation by the respondent (the person who is reported as committing the misconduct) and others affiliated with him or her. This right extends to anyone affiliated with you, such as family members and any potential witnesses, should you decide you want to pursue an investigation. Interim measures are designed to prevent retaliation, prevent the continuation or recurrence of misconduct and prevent the creation of (or remedy) a hostile environment. Most of these measures (listed below) may be taken even if you do not wish to initiate an investigation. We will maintain as confidential any accommodations or interim measures provided to you, to the extent feasible. Interim measures that would require disclosure of your identity to the respondent, such as a no contact order, for example, barring exceptional circumstances, would not be implemented without your consent or request. Possible interim measures available to you include but are not limited to:

- No contact orders, which will ban further contact from the respondent. For more information about Chowan no contact orders, please review the No Contact Order section in the Student Handbook. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6528 /Residence Life (252)398-6237

- If you wish to obtain a civilly processed Domestic Violence Protection Order or No Contact Order, please contact Chowan University Public Safety, (252)398-1234.
- Reasonable academic accommodations, Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6528
- Financial aid assistance for an underload, work study assignment, etc. Note that this is subject to limitations imposed by federal law and the terms of the relevant financial aid, Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6528.
- Changing residential locations. Please note that you will not be required to change residences, but it is an option available to you. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6528/Residence Life (252)398-6237
- Employee job adjustments, Title IX Coordinator in conjunction with Director of Human Resources. Title IX Coordinator, (252)398-6528.

### Free Support Services Available to You

*(You do not have to pursue an investigation to access these support services)*

#### @ Chowan University

- Medical services from the Student Health Services located in Penny Hall.,
- Academic Accommodations, Title IX Office, (252)398-6528
- Visa and immigration assistance for international students available through the Registrar's Office, (252)398-6232
- Victim Advocacy, Campus Ministry Office, (252)398-6268
- Legal Assistance- Chowan refers student to Legal Aid services in Ahoskie.

#### Outside Chowan University, Local Resources

- Integrated Family Services  
228 W Main St, Ahoskie, NC 27910  
(252) 209-0388
- ECU Health Roanoke Chowan Hospital  
500 South Academy Street  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
252-209-3000
- Roanoke-Chowan Service for Abused Families with Emergencies (S.A.F.E.)  
P.O. Box 98  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
252-332-1933 | [www.roanokechowansafe.com](http://www.roanokechowansafe.com)
- Murfreesboro Police Department  
115 East Broad Street  
Murfreesboro, NC 27855  
252-398-4151 | <http://bit.ly/2aGw5qv>
- Murfreesboro Primary Care  
3015 Beachwood Boulevard  
Murfreesboro, NC 27855  
252-398-3323 | <http://www.rcchc.org/murfreesboro-primary-care.html>
- Legal Aid of NC  
1610 E. Church St.  
Ahoskie, NC  
866-219-5262

## State and National

North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
3710 University Drive, Suite 140  
Durham, NC 27707  
919-956-9124 | [www.nccadv.org](http://www.nccadv.org)

North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
811 Spring Forest Road, Suite 900  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
919-871-1015 | [www.nccasa.org](http://www.nccasa.org)

National Domestic Violence Hotline  
1-800-799-7233 | [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network  
1-800-656-HOPE | [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

1 in 6: Support for Men  
[www.1in6.org](http://www.1in6.org)

Love Is Respect: Empowering Young People in Abusive Relationships  
1-866-331-9474 | [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)



We're here for U  
when you need  
someone to talk to.

**Uwill.**  
Student Mental Health & Wellness

Students receive  
**FREE IMMEDIATE  
ACCESS TO TELETHERAPY**

Choose a therapist based on your preferences  
*gender, language, ethnicity, focus area*

at a time that fits your schedule  
*day, night, weekend availability by video, phone, chat or message*

Private. Secure. Confidential.

Experiencing a mental health crisis?  
Help is available 24/7/365

Scan QR code to get started  
using your school email



If you are experiencing a medical emergency call 911.