

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Commission
Wyoming County Service Plan
Derek Laxton, Prosecuting Attorney

Local Board/SART Overview

To meet SAFE Commission standards, Wyoming County has formalized a coordinated response through the creation of a local board, convened specifically to meet the SAFE Commission's guidelines. Members of this local coordinated response collaboration include:

- Wyoming County Prosecutor
- West Virginia State Police- Jesse Detachment
- Wyoming County Sheriff's Office
- Raleigh General Hospital
- Stop Abusive Family Environments (S.A.F.E. Inc.)
- Stop the Hurt Child Advocacy Center
- 911 Dispatch

The local board/SART plans to meet annually with the intent to:

- ☒ Share information and resources
- ☒ Identify gaps in the service delivery system
- ☒ Increase awareness on issues of sexual assault and stalking in the community
- ☒ Increase victim and community safety
- ☒ Develop professional relationships and an understanding of varying roles and responsibilities of first responders
- ☒ Develop, implement, and review county protocol to meet legislative requirements of the SAFE Commission

ADVOCACY PROTOCOL

The following seven advocacy services meet core service standards. The following services exist in our county:

- ☒ 24/7 advocacy, support, and accompaniment during the medical forensic exam, law enforcement investigations and court proceedings
- ☒ Information for victims about reporting/not reporting to law enforcement
- ☒ Crisis intervention and/or emotional support to victims and their families
- ☒ Referrals and coordinated services with other agencies
- ☒ Support for victims through the criminal justice system
- ☒ Replacement clothing for victims after medical forensic exams, if needed
- ☒ Protection of victim privacy and confidentiality

Advocacy services within Wyoming County are provided by Stop Abusive Family Environments (S.A.F.E.). Crisis intervention, advocacy, shelter and support services can be accessed 24/7 by contacting 304-436-8117. S.A.F.E. is the rape crisis center that will be providing follow-up services for victims receiving forensic exams at Raleigh General.

If the victim needs medical care or requests a medical forensic exam, the transportation protocol should be activated and the victim immediately transported for treatment and evidence collection. If the advocate from S.A.F.E. provides the transportation to Raleigh General Hospital, that advocate will also provide advocacy/support services for the victim at the hospital. If transportation to Raleigh General Hospital is provided by EMS or law enforcement, an advocate from AWAY (which provides advocacy services at Raleigh General) will respond within 60 minutes. If a victim is being transported to Raleigh General by EMS or law enforcement, a call can be made to AWAY at 304-255-2559 to alert them to send an advocate.

First responders will be informed of this Advocacy Protocol by:

The Wyoming County SART team will review the SAFE plan every year during the March meeting (first meeting of the year) and hold an information session during April for all first responders in Wyoming County. The SAFE Office will send out a memo to all first responders to invite them to the information session. The SAFE Office will then follow up the session by sending the plan to all first responding agencies who were unable to send their staff to the information session. In-person conversations with first responders will be held quarterly or as needed to make sure they understand the plan and are sharing it with the rest of their staff. The SART will work with first responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures. The first responders who need to have access to this plan is the Wyoming County Sheriff's Department, State Police - Jesse Detachment, Pineville Police Department, Raleigh General Hospital, S.A.F.E. INC., 911 Dispatch, Wyoming County Schools, Stop the Hurt, City and County EMS, and the Wyoming County Health Department.

Phone numbers of Rape Crisis Centers to Activate Advocacy Protocol:

For crisis services, shelter and support: S.A.F.E. 304-436-8117

**For advocacy at Raleigh General Hospital when transportation is provided by
EMS or law enforcement: AWAY 304-255-2559**

MEDICAL FORENSIC PROTOCOL

OVERVIEW

Medical forensic services are provided by:

Raleigh General Hospital
1710 Harper Road
Beckley, WV
304-256-4100

Medical Forensic Exams are provided by physicians 24/7.

First responders will be informed of this Medical Forensic Protocol by:

The Wyoming County SART team will review the SAFE plan every year during the March meeting (first meeting of the year) and hold an information session during April for all first responders in Wyoming County. The SAFE Office will send out a memo to all first responders to invite them to the information session. The SAFE Office will then follow up the session by sending the plan to all first responding agencies who were unable to send their staff to the information session. In-person conversations with first responders will be held quarterly or as needed to make sure they understand the plan and are sharing it with the rest of their staff. The SART will work with first responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures. The first responders who need to have access to this plan is the Wyoming County Sheriff's Department, State Police- Jesse Detachment, Pineville Police Department, Raleigh General Hospital, S.A.F.E. INC., 911 Dispatch, Wyoming County Schools, Stop the Hurt, City and County EMS, and the Wyoming County Health Department.

Phone number to Activate Medical Forensic Protocol: 304-256-4100

TRANSPORTATION PROTOCOL

OVERVIEW

The SAFE Commission requires that this transportation protocol must include the following four core components:

1. Accessible transportation, including the ability to transport victims with disabilities
2. Transportation to and from the medical forensic exam regardless of the victim's ability to pay
3. Plan for victim confidentiality
4. Plan to return the victim to his or her point of origin (or an agreed upon safe place) after the medical forensic examination

Transportation protocol when emergent medical needs exist: Call 911

Transportation protocol when no emergent medical needs exist:

Accessible transportation services are available for victims to Raleigh General Hospital and from the hospital to a safe location by calling Stop Abusive Family Environments (S.A.F.E.). Information will be kept confidential to maintain victim privacy and transportation is available to victims at no cost.

For victims wishing to report the assault immediately to law enforcement or who are in need of medical care, transport services can also be accessed by contacting 911. The Wyoming County Sheriff's Department will provide transportation to the hospital and an incident report will be made. S.A.F.E. will provide free transportation from the hospital to a safe location.

First responders will be informed of this Transportation Protocol by:

The Wyoming County SART team will review the SAFE plan every year during the March meeting (first meeting of the year) and hold an information session during April for all first responders in Wyoming County. The SAFE Office will send out a memo to all first responders to invite them to the information session. The SAFE Office will then follow up the session by sending the plan to all first responding agencies who were unable to send their staff to the information session. In-person conversations with first responders will be held quarterly or as needed to make sure they understand the plan and are sharing it with the rest of their staff. The SART will work with first responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures. The first responders who need to have access to this plan is the Wyoming County Sheriff's Department, State Police - Jesse Detachment, Pineville Police Department, Raleigh General Hospital, S.A.F.E. INC., 911 Dispatch, Wyoming County Schools, Stop the Hurt, City and County EMS, and the Wyoming County Health Department.

Phone numbers to activate Transportation Protocol:

- Stop Abusive Family Environments (S.A.F.E.) 1-800-688-6157 or 304-436-8117
- 911 in cases when the victim needs medical care or wants to immediately report the assault to law enforcement