



# VAWA



## Violence Against Women Act

### **VAWA IS FOR EVERYONE** ABOUT VAWA

This Act was established to address and reduce incidents of relationship violence, stalking, and sexual violence by coordinating community response, providing funding for rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, and providing rights to those who experience these crimes.

### **HOW TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE**

Preserve evidence if you intend to report the incident.

- Do not wash bedding, towels, or clothing.
- Do not erase voicemails, texts, or emails.
- Avoid bathing, showering, brushing teeth.
- Avoid eating, drinking, using toilet.
- Avoid cleaning the crime scene.

PROTECTING STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES, REGARDLESS OF GENDER OR ORIENTATION.

### **YOUR RIGHTS UNDER VAWA**

- You have the right to report the incident, or not, to law enforcement, to the University, or to any confidential campus resources.
- You do **not** need to report an incident to police to receive protective measures from the University. Both processes may however run at the same time.
- Protective measures may include but are not limited to risk assessment, safety planning, on-campus housing or workplace accommodations, no contact orders, class changes.
- Disciplinary proceedings will be prompt, fair, and impartial. Every case is unique and will vary in length.
- Proceedings are conducted by officials who receive training on these specific crimes, conducting an investigation, protecting victim safety and promoting accountability.
- The Complainant and Respondent have the same rights, including the right to be accompanied to any proceedings by an advisor of their choice.