## VICTIM'S INITIAL CONTACT A GUIDE FOR ADVOCATES

SAFETY	_
Does the victim have immediate or pending safety concerns?	Does the victim know that she/he can stop the exam at any time or refuse parts of the exam? Does the victim know the implications of that
Does the victim have or need an HRO or OFP?	decision?.
Does the victim understand the role of an advocate and that the advocate can	Does the victim know that the county will pay for some or all of the exam and how payment will be arranged?
accompany her/him through the process?	OTHER
Is the assailant someone who is on probation or parole or has an HRO or OFP against him/her? Is there a no contact order?	Does the victim know she/he can chose to not report the assault to law enforcement – either right now or ever?
Does the victim know about preserving evidence including the initial urine collection?	Does the victim understand the implications of making a delayed report?
MEDICAL EXAM	Does the victim understand that she/he doesn't "press charges" but that the state presses charges against the
Does the victim understand the medical exam process, the collection of	assailant?
evidence, and the limited timeline?	Does the victim have special needs or are there special circumstances that
Does the victim know that she/he can still have a medical exam conducted	the advocate needs to be aware of?
for health issues if the timeline for evidence collection has passed?	Does the victim need transportation to the hospital?
Does the victim know where to go for an exam?	
Does the victim understand that she/he	Sexual Violence Justice Institute MNCASA
retains the power to report or not report the case to law enforcement -	161 St. Anthony Avenue, Suite 1001 St. Paul, MN 55103
that the hospital will not contact the	651-209-9993 • 800-964-8847

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police without her/his consent?