

OGDEN CITY POLICE

Office of the Chief

Policy No: 48

Subject Forensic Exam Center	Effective Date April 2018
Department Police	Replaces Policy Dated December, 2005
Division All Police Personnel	Review Date April 2024
Authorized Signature 	

NOTE: This rule or regulation is for internal use only and does not enlarge an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this agency, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

To outline the protocol for Ogden City police officers when using the Northern Utah Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (NUSANE.) To foster cooperation between victims, Ogden City police officers, sexual assault nurse examiners, and rape advocates through a team response to the investigation of sexual assault cases.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Ogden City Police Department to use the Northern Utah Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners when deemed appropriate for adolescent/adult sexual assault examinations, including forensic interviews, conducted by specially trained staff.

III. DEFINITION

- A. Northern Utah Forensic Examination Center (NUFEC) - A facility located at 477 23rd Street, Ogden, Utah. The Center is designed to facilitate the investigation of sexual assault cases toward adolescent/adult victims. The Center provides a safe and appropriate place for the victim, law enforcement agencies, and specially trained forensic nurses to perform interviews, medical forensic exams, and collection of evidence.

- B. Northern Utah Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (NUSANE) – Specially educated registered nurses trained in the collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases.
- C. Rape Crisis Advocates – Individuals who are trained to assist victims of sexual assault. Dispatched from YCC and able to respond to support victims through the Code R exam or with resources and referrals.
- D. Adolescent/Adult – Persons 14 years of age and older.
- E. Evidence - All items of potentially relevant importance for criminal prosecution purposes that are not part of the victim's medical record.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. When called to the scene of a sexual assault complaint, determine the need for a forensic examination (Code R.) Determination for a forensic examination is based on the amount of time following a sexual assault and the nature of the sexual assault. Coordinate with your supervisor and/or NUSANE to determine this need.
- B. Once the need is established for a forensic exam (Code R) the officer will contact the Weber Area Consolidated Dispatch center notifying them of the need for a forensic nurse (SANE) and a rape crisis advocate. The officer will supply dispatch with a phone number where he can be contacted to coordinate response for the forensic nurse and rape crisis advocate.
- C. If the victim is in the emergency room a collaborative decision will be made to remain in the emergency room for the Code R or move to NUFEC.
- D. If the Code R examination is to be performed at NUFEC, conduct your interview with the victim prior to the examination if possible. The victim may be permitted to have a rape crisis advocate present during the interview process.
- E. The officer will remain at the emergency room or NUFEC to collect the Code R examination kit. Evidence will then be stored in an appropriate manner.
- F. The officer will provide information regarding rape crisis services and/or have a rape crisis advocate respond to assist a victim whether or not a Code R examination is conducted.