

How Do I Report Sexual Assault, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking?

At UMW, there are many resources and ways to find help after gender-based violence. Your decision to report or seek support is personal; there is no “right” way to proceed.

Office of Title IX

Reports go to the Title IX Coordinator who reaches out to the complainant (victim) to provide resources including victim services and confidential resources and assess safety and the desire/need to go forward with an administrative investigation.

If complainant **does not** wish to go forward with an investigation **and** based on the risk analysis the University can honor Complainant’s request...

OTIX will offer support and resources. The complainant is still entitled to interim measures and accommodations regardless if they request an investigation or not.

OTIX and HR work together if it involves an employee

Human Resources

UMW PD shares report with OTIX.

If the complainant wishes or the incident involves a felony, it must be reported to PD.

UMW PD and OTIX will collaborate to the extent possible. The complainant may pursue a criminal *and* administrative investigation simultaneously.

If there is a report of sexual violence, the Review Committee meets within 72 hours to determine next steps to ensure the ongoing safety of the complainant or community. If complainant **does** wish to go forward with an investigation, **and** there is sufficient evidence of a policy violation to do so...

An investigation will be opened. Both the complainant and respondent will be notified in writing but are not required to participate.

University Police

UMW PD will take a detailed report of the alleged incident, issue a Clery warning if applicable, and determine whether or not to proceed with a criminal investigation, taking into account the victim’s wishes. PD will provide resources and support, including information about OTIX and the University process.

If an investigation is requested or the police and Commonwealth’s Attorney decide to proceed

PD will move forward with a criminal investigation, including interviewing involved persons and collecting evidence.

If there is sufficient evidence an arrest warrant will be issued and the prosecution will be handled by the Commonwealth’s Attorney.

Confidential Resources

If you have questions about your reporting options but are unsure if you would like to report yet, please contact a confidential resource. Confidential resources will not notify any of these departments unless you explicitly tell them to.

On campus:
Talley Center for Counseling,
Student Health Center,
Victim Advocate,
TEAL Peer Educators

Off-campus:
RCASA
Empowerhouse
Doctor, nurse, or clinic

The survivor (victim) will be offered support to the best abilities of the organization. This may include referrals to other agencies, counseling, medical care, safety planning, crisis intervention, and more. No report is made to OTIX or UMWPD unless the survivor requests it.

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Frequently Asked Questions About the University Process

What happens during the University Investigation (Title IX Investigation)?

The Title IX Investigator will begin an impartial and neutral investigation including interviewing the involved parties, witnesses, and reviewing evidence. All parties will be informed of their rights and responsibilities according to University Policy.

Following a thorough investigation, the Title IX Investigator will share a Preliminary Investigative Report. Both parties have 5 days to provide additional information, clarification, or request further investigation.

After the review period, the Investigator will issue a Final Investigative Report with recommended findings and, if appropriate, sanctions. This report will be reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator before being provided simultaneously to both parties.

Can a finding be appealed?

The findings of a Title IX investigation can be appealed by either party under four circumstances:

- 1) The Investigator exhibited unfair bias which influenced the results of the investigation;
- 2) The availability of new evidence, unavailable at the time of the investigation, that could substantially impact the Investigator's findings or recommendations;
- 3) An error in the investigation that is of such magnitude as to deny fundamental fairness; and/or
- 4) The sanctions recommended by the Investigator are inappropriate for or inconsistent with the violation or with the cumulative conduct record of the Respondent.

What is the Review Committee?

The purpose of the Review Committee is to evaluate risk factors and consider whether to disclose identifying information, with or without the Complainant's consent to protect the safety of the individual or community. If information is share, that will be communicated to the Complainant.

The review committee meets within 72 hours of receiving a report and consists of members of the Office of Title IX, UMWPD, member of the division of Student Affairs, and other administrators as necessary.

Where do I go to report?

You have the option of reporting online or in person.

To report online, visit www.ume.edu/concerns. Click on the "UMW Reporting Form," and fill out any information you are comfortable sharing. *This report can be made anonymously.* You can report in person through any of the following options:

Title IX Coordinator:
Stefanie Lucas Waverly
Fairfax House
540.654.5656
toldfiel@umw.edu

Local Police: Stop by a local station or call 911.

**Professional On Call (POC):
UMW Police**
Call UMW Police at 540.654.1025 and ask to speak with the POC. The POC is a professional staff member from Residence Life. A member of their team is always on call to support students.

Title IX Deputy for Students:
Crystal Rawls
UC 303
540.654.1801

Title IX Deputy for Employees:
Terri Arthur
GW 201
540.654.2051
tlockhar@umw.edu

Residence Life Reporting:
Professional staff members in Residence Life can be reached at 540.654.1058 during business hours. Your RA's duty cell phone number can be found on your RA's door or the bulletin boards in the residence halls.

Coordinator for Prevention and Advocacy:
Marissa Miller
Fairfax House or Marye House
540.654.1193
mmille23@umw.edu

Dean of Students:
Dean Rucker
Marye House
540.654-1200
crucker@umw.edu

UMW Victim Advocate
*Confidential, can help you understand your reporting options
Jaime Opanashuk
Tyler House
540.654.1053
jopanash@umw.edu

University Police: Stop by Brent house or call 540.654.1025/540.654.4444 (emergency) to request an officer.

How do I contact a confidential resource?

UMW Talley Center for Counseling Services | Lee 106 | 540.654.1053 | *Victim Advocate available on request

Empowerhouse | empowerhouseva.org | 540.373.9373 (24/7 hotline)

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault (RCASA) | rcasa.org | 540.371.1666 (24/7 hotline)

Mary Washington Hospital Emergency Room (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) nurse line: 540.741.1000

Student Health Center (for non-urgent care, pregnancy and STI testing) Lee 112 | 540.654.1010