This brochure summarizes important rights you have under Massachusetts law. To learn more about these rights, contact one of the rape crisis centers listed in this brochure or speak with the health care professional, law enforcement official, or victim advocate assigned to your case.

1. **You have the right to consult with a sexual assault victim advocate.**
   - You have the right to request a consultation with a sexual assault victim advocate who shall have confidentiality and privilege prior to the administration of a sexual assault evidence collection kit or an interview with a law enforcement officer regarding the assault. A Sexual Assault Victim Advocate is a person employed or is a volunteer at a rape crisis center or rape crisis program.
   - If you choose not to speak with an advocate at first, you can always speak with an advocate at a later time.

2. **You have the right to information about disclosing an assault to law enforcement and having a sexual assault evidence collection kit tested.**
   - The decision of whether to report a sexual assault to law enforcement is up to you.
   - If you choose to report the assault to law enforcement, you do not need to write out your report or go to the law enforcement agency, although you may do so.
   - If you choose to report a sexual assault, your kit will be tested at a crime lab.
   - If you choose not to report a sexual assault, your kit will not be tested but will be stored appropriately by the law enforcement agency in the city or town where the assault occurred. Your kit can only be tested if you report the sexual assault to law enforcement.
   - The law enforcement agency in the city or town where the sexual assault occurred has a dedicated liaison that can assist you with this information request or any questions you may have.

3. **You have the right to information regarding your sexual assault evidence collection kit.**
   - You have the right to know the kit’s location, its testing date, the testing results, and when the kit may be destroyed.
   - The location and testing date of your kit is available through https://ma.track-kit.us. The District Attorney or law enforcement agency handling your case can also provide you with this information.
   - The District Attorney’s office or law enforcement agency handling your case can provide you with the testing results from your kit.
   - All kits must be held for at least 15 years. The District Attorney’s Office or law enforcement agency can provide you with information on when your kit may be destroyed.

4. **You have the right to information on the status of your case.**
   - If there is a criminal case pending, you have the right to know any change in the status of your case, and if the case has been closed or reopened at any time.
   - The District Attorney’s office or law enforcement agency handling your case can assist you with this information request.
   - The Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights provides additional rights pertaining to your case.

5. **You have the right to apply for victim compensation funds.**
   - The Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA), the District Attorney’s office that is handling your case, or the liaison at the law enforcement agency handling your case can assist you with this information request.

6. **You have the right to designate someone to obtain this information for you.**
   - You may choose another person to receive any or all of the information described in this brochure.

Massachusetts Rape Crisis Programs:

**BOSTON:**
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)
99 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139-3428
Hotline: (800) 841-8371
 [*additional sites in Boston, Waltham have full wheelchair access*]

**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS:**
Pathways for Change
588 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608-2014
TTY: (888) 887-7130
Office: (508) 852-7600

Wayside Trauma Intervention Services
Valley Rape Crisis Program
10 Asylum Street
Milford, MA 01757
TTY: (508) 478-6888
Office: (508) 478-6888

Voice Against Violence
South Middlesex Opportunity Council
7 Bishop Street
Framingham, MA 01702-8313
Hotline: (800) 593-1125
TTY: (508) 626-8686
Office: (508) 620-0834
A Guide to Your Rights
As a Survivor of Sexual Assault

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