



**Keeping Each
Other Safe:
Working Together to
End Sexual Violence**

Dear Students, Faculty, & Staff,

Sexual assault and sexual violence are serious issues facing higher education. As an institution dedicated to cultivating academic success, student development, social justice, and civic engagement, Lower Columbia College is committed to ensuring sexual assault and sexual violence have no place on our campus.

When students experience sexual assault it changes their world. The process of learning is interrupted, the course of personal development and growth altered, the bond of social trust broken. Sexual assault and violence cause immeasurable harm; some public, some private; some personal, some institutional; but all forms are an intolerable break from the purpose, mission, and values of Lower Columbia College.

In compliance with Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA), Title IX, and other legislation, the College is committed to fostering a safe learning and working environment for Lower Columbia College's students, faculty, and staff. This booklet provides information about options for reporting incidents of sexual violence and resources to provide ongoing support.

Addressing and responding to sexual assault and sexual violence at Lower Columbia College requires a coordinated and transparent effort by all community members. Lower Columbia College will continue to advocate for constructive dialogue and policies supporting students and employees to meet compliance requirements, but more importantly to develop and maintain campus communities that are safe and conducive to learning.

Together we can ensure students continue to have safe, healthy, and welcoming campus environments to learn and grow by continuing to eradicate sexual assault and violence from our campus community.

With deep regard for creating a safe and just community for all,



Kendra Sprague, Title IX Coordinator



If you have been raped or sexually assaulted

1) Go somewhere safe

- If you are in danger, contact local police at 911 or Campus Security at 360.442.2911.
- Ask someone you trust (friend, staff or faculty, or family member) to stay with you for emotional support.
- Places you can contact for help include:
 - » Crime Victim Advocacy Program – 360.425.2273 or
 - » Emergency Support Shelter – 360.425.1176
 - » Crisis Response Services 360.425.6064 or toll-free 1.800.803.8833 or hearing impaired 800.610.6868

2) Seek medical attention

- A support person or advocate can go with you.
- Injuries may not be immediately apparent. A medical exam can reassure you regarding potential injuries, can test for STDs and provide emergency contraception, and provide any needed treatment.
- Forensic evidence can be collected up to 72 hours after an assault.

To aid in preserving evidence –

- » Do not change clothes. If you have, bring the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault with you to the hospital.
- » Do not bathe, shower or douche before going to the hospital.
- » Collecting forensic evidence does not mean you will be required to pursue legal action.
- » Peace Health St. John's Medical Center has 24-hour access to medical professionals trained in sexual assault. Contact 360.414.2000.

3) Seek ongoing support

- Talking to a counselor can provide additional confidential support. You can contact Lower Columbia College's Counseling Services Office at 360.442.2330. Weekdays 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Trained advocates can provide resources and referrals for ongoing support. Places you can contact include:
 - » Crime Victim Advocacy Program – 360.425.2273 or
 - » Emergency Support Shelter – 360.425.1176
 - » Crisis Response Services 360.425.6064 or toll-free 1.800.803.8833 or hearing impaired 800.610.6868
- Feelings and reactions to the assault may persist. Talking with a counselor or advocate can help you sort through what you are experiencing.

4) Report the assault

- Whether or not you report to police or to College officials is your choice. We encourage you to report.
- Options for reporting include filing an official police report and/or filing a report with the College's Title IX Coordinator. You can pursue the complaint and investigation process with both entities.

How do I report or file a complaint related to sexual misconduct?

Any student, applicant, employee or visitor of the College may file a complaint. Lower Columbia College's a Title IX Coordinator is Kendra Sprague, title9@lowercolumbia.edu or 360.442.2121.

Lower Columbia College is required to take immediate and corrective action if a "responsible employee" knows of a sexual misconduct situation. Responsible employees include faculty, coaches, administrators, and other employees with a responsibility for student welfare.



What happens when I report to the Title IX Coordinator?

The Title IX Coordinator is a school official who has been specifically trained in collecting information and in referring those impacted by sexual assault to helpful resources. The Title IX Coordinator -

- Will gather your information and keep accurate notes and records of your report and any referrals provided to you.
- Will inform and ask to obtain consent from you before commencing an investigation into a sexual violence complaint.
- Will determine and inform you if the College can honor a request for confidentiality. Maintaining confidentiality may limit the College's ability to fully respond to the allegations. Retaliation by the respondent and/or others is prohibited.
- May conduct an investigation or oversee an investigation handled by another campus official.
- May impose protective measures during the investigations. Interim measures may be imposed to protect you and/or the respondent pending the conclusion of the investigation.
- Will issue written findings and recommendations upon completion of the investigation.

What protective measures may I be offered?

Protective measures offered during the course of an investigation are determined on a case by case basis.

They may include, but are not limited to –

- Campus enforcement of no contact orders
- Rescheduling of classes
- Temporary work reassignments
- Referrals for counseling or medical assistance
- Disciplinary action for the respondent consistent with the College's Code of Student Conduct or employee discipline procedures



What is Lower Columbia College's Sexual Assault Policy?

Sexual violence is a type of sexual discrimination and harassment. Nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking are all types of sexual violence. The College's entire policy & procedure against harassment and discrimination can be found on the Lower Columbia College website: lowercolumbia.edu/disclosure/non-discrimination/index.php

Recognize and avoid abusive behavior such as:

- Frequent yelling directed at a partner
- Blaming partner for own faults
- Name calling
- Consistently accusing partner of infidelity
- Kicking, holding, slapping, or scratching
- Forcible or coercive sex
- Sexual activity when one is not able to provide consent

Bystander Intervention:

If you suspect that a friend or acquaintance is being abused or has been sexually assaulted or stalked, offer support.

- Speak out against all forms of sexual violence
- Be an advocate for preventing sexual violence
- Model behavior that values respect for others



In Case of Emergency Call 911

General Campus Resources

LCC Counseling Services	360.442.2330	lowercolumbia.edu/counseling
Safety and Security	360.442.2911	lowercolumbia.edu/safety
Reporting incidents of sexual misconduct and related offenses: Director of Safety & Security – 360.442.2911, Title IX Coordinator – 360.442.2121		

Sexual Misconduct Resources

COWLITZ

Northwest Justice Project/Clear Program	888.201.1014	www.nwjustice.org
Community House	360.425.8679	choblv.org
Drug Abuse Prevention Center	360.425.9210	www.dapcenter.org
Crime Victim Advocacy Program	360.425.1176	esshelter.com/services/crime-victim-advocacy-program
Emergency Support Shelter (legal advocates available)	360.425.1176	esshelter.com
Mental Health Crisis Line	360.425.6064	www.ccgacares.com/crisisresponse
St. John Medical Center	360.414.2000	www.peacehealth.org/st-john
Kaiser Permanente	360.636.2400	kp.org
Family Health Center	888.528.7364	hcowlitzfamilyhealth.org

CLARK

YWCA Safe Choice (Vancouver)	800.695.0167	www.ywcaclarkcounty.org
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COLUMBIA

SAFE of Columbia County	866.397.6161	www.safeofcolumbiacounty.org
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LEWIS

Human Response Network (Chehalis)	360.748.6601	www.hrnlc.org
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The Charlotte House Domestic Violence Shelter	360.795.6401	www.stjamesfamilycenter.org
The Charlotte House Sexual Assault Services	360.795.6401	www.stjamesfamilycenter.org

Law Enforcement

In Case of Emergency	Call 911	
Castle Rock Police	360.274.4711	www.crpolicy.org
Cowlitz County Sheriff	360.557.3092	www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/sheriff
Kelso Police	360.423.1270	www.kelso.gov/departments-services/police-department
Kalama Police	360.673.2165	www.kalamapolice.com
Longview Police	360.442.5800	www.ci.longview.wa.us/index.aspx?page=400
Wahkiakum County Sheriff	360.795.3242	www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us/depts/sheriff
Woodland Police	360.225.6965	www.ci.woodland.wa.us/departments/police

Abuse Hotlines (All 24 Hours)

Adult Protective Services	360.501.2500	dshs.wa.gov/altsa/home-and-community-services/adult-abuse-and-prevention
Emergency Support Shelter Crisis Line	360.636.8471	esshelter.com
Child Protective Services Hotline	360.501.2600	dshs.wa.gov/ca/parent-resources/child-protective-services
Family Planning Hotline	800.770.4334	www.plannedparenthood.org
National Child Abuse Hotline	800.422.4453	www.childhelp.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800.799.SAFE	www.thehotline.org
WA State Domestic Violence Hotline	800.562.6025	www.wadvhotline.org

Title IX Coordinator
title9@lowercolumbia.edu
or 360.442.2121



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