



# **SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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## **TRAINING BULLETIN**

**TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL**

**FROM:** Anthony Mata  
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT: SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC  
EXAM (SAFE) PROCEDURES**

**DATE:** June 9, 2022

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Bulletin# 2022-014

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The Department is revising its procedures for responding to investigations involving a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE - formerly known as a SART examination) in an effort to provide a “survivor-centered” approach to investigations. All survivors of sexual assaults will now be offered a SAFE regardless of when the crime occurred. Sexual Assault nurses no longer need law enforcement authorization to initiate a SAFE exam. Officers are no longer required to obtain approval from SAIU prior to offering and initiating a SAFE exam for a survivor. The following procedures will be followed for investigations involving a SAFE exam:

### **SEXUAL ASSAULT INVOLVING A SAFE EXAM:**

1. Should an officer encounter a sexual assault survivor in the field and the survivor wishes to undergo a SAFE exam, the officer should transport or ensure the survivor is transported to Valley Medical Center (VMC) without delay.
2. A SAFE exam will be initiated by VMC Staff when a survivor of any sexual assault arrives at the hospital and wishes to undergo the exam, regardless of when the crime occurred. An officer should be present at the conclusion of the SAFE exam to collect the evidence and initiate a police investigation.
3. SAIU should be notified by phone or email as soon as practicable after a SAFE exam has been started.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Mata".

Anthony Mata  
Chief of Police

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