# SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS: KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS!

### YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

#### **CONTROL**

You can make the decision whether or not to file a police report or third-party information report.

#### **PRIVACY**

Use a pseudonym (different name to protect your identity) and have your address and phone number kept out of court files relating to your case.

#### A FORENSIC EXAM

Free collection of evidence to support your case, whether or not you report the crime.

#### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Be compensated through crime victims' compensation for financial losses resulting from the criminal conduct, such as: medical costs, moving costs and lost wages.

#### **BE BELIEVED**

You can refuse to take a lie detector test.

#### **PEACE OF MIND**

After indictment, have your attacker tested for HIV/AIDS and be notified of the results.

#### **SAFETY**

Have your safety considered when bail is set.

#### **INFORMATION**

Be notified of all legal proceedings, including parole proceedings and the defendant's custody status.

#### **INPUT**

Write a "victim impact statement" telling the court the impact the sexual assault has had on your life. This information will be considered during punishment and parole.

#### **KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS!**

Contact one of the agencies on the back of this card for details and assistance today.

## LEGAL HELP

| 1-888-296-7233<br>1-800-347-4673     | Texas Advocacy Project<br>Sexual Assault Legal Line<br>Family Violence Legal Line<br>www.women-law.org                                  |
|--------------------------------------|---|
|                                      | Texas Law Help!<br>Online Referral Service<br>www.texaslawhelp.org  |
| 1-888-988-9996                       | Legal Aid Offices<br>Texas RioGrande Legal Aid<br>www.trla.org  |
| 1-888-529-5277                       | Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas<br>www.lanwt.org   |
| 1 -800-733-8394                      | Lone Star legal Aid<br>www.lonestarlegal.org  |
| 1-800-204-2222 x1855                 | Not sure which Legal Aid Office to call?<br>Call Texas Lawyers Care   |
| 1-800-622-2520                       | Legal Hotline for Texans For Texans 60 and older, Medicare eligible, or older crime victims. www.tlsc.org/hotline.html                  |
| 1-800-204-2222 x1790                 | Client Attorney Assistance Program Assistance with resolving complaints between clients and attorneys. www.texasbar.com/caap            |
| 1-512-474-5073                       | Texas Civil Rights Project Assistance for immigrant victims of violence against women. www.texascivilrightsproject.org                  |
|                                      | VICTIM SERVICES   |
| 1-800-656-4673                       | Rape Abuse Incest National Network Connects you to your closest rape crisis center 24 hours/day. www.rainn.org                          |
| 1-800-799-7233<br>1-800-787-3225 TDD | National Domestic Violence Hotline<br>www.ndvh.org  |
| 1-800-983-9933                       | Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Program Compensation for losses due to criminal conduct. www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/about_comp.shtml |
| 1-800-848-4284                       | TDCJ Victims' Services Division For assistance if offender is in prison. www.tdcj.state.tx.us/victim/victim-home                        |
| 1-888-580-4357                       | Texas Runaway Hotline<br>www.dfps.state.tx.us/<br>Runaway_Hotline/runaway.asp   |
| 1-800-210-2278                       | Texas Youth Hotline   |

www.dfps.state.tx.us/ YOUTH\_Hotline/youth.asp