

Appendix G

Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights

The following rights shall be accorded, by all campus officers, administrators, and employees of Georgia Southwestern State University, to victims of campus-related sexual assaults:

- 1.** The right to have any and all sexual assaults against them treated with seriousness; the right, as victims, to be treated with dignity; and the right for campus organizations which assist such victims to be accorded recognition.
- 2.** The right to have sexual assaults committed against them investigated and adjudicated by the duly constituted criminal and civil authorities of the governmental entity in which the crimes occurred; and the right to the full and prompt cooperation and assistance of campus personnel in notifying the proper authorities. The foregoing shall be in addition to any campus disciplinary proceedings.
- 3.** The right to be free from any kind of pressure from campus personnel that victims not report crimes committed against them to civil and criminal authorities or to campus enforcement and disciplinary officials; or report crimes as lesser offense than the victims perceive them to be.
- 4.** The right to be free from any kind of suggestion that campus sexual assault victims not report, or under-report, crimes because:
 - a.** victims are somehow responsible for the commission of crimes against them;
 - b.** victims were negligent or assumed the risk of being assaulted; or
 - c.** by reporting crimes they would incur unwanted personal publicity.
- 5.** The same right to legal assistance, or ability to have others present, in any campus disciplinary proceeding that the institution permits to be the accused; and the right to be notified of the outcome of such proceeding.
- 6.** The right to full and prompt cooperation from campus personnel in obtaining, securing, and maintaining evidence (including a medical examination) as may be necessary to the proof of criminal sexual assault in subsequent legal proceedings.
- 7.** The right to be made aware of, and assisted in exercising any options, as provided by State and Federal laws or regulations, with regard to mandatory testing of sexual assault suspects for communicable diseases and with regard to notification to victims of the results of such testing.

- 8.** The right to counseling from any mental health services previously established by the institution, or by other victim-service entities, or by victims themselves.
- 9.** After campus sexual assaults have been reported, the victims of such crimes shall have the right to require that campus personnel take the necessary steps or actions reasonably feasible to prevent any unnecessary or unwanted contact or proximity with alleged assailants, including immediate relocation of the victim to safe and secure alternative housing, and transfer of classes if requested by the victims.
- 10.** In addition to the above rights, students, whether sexual assault victims or not, have a right to habitability in campus housing and in campus accommodations for which the University receives any compensation, direct or indirect.