



IOWA LAW REQUIRES OFFICERS TO NOTIFY SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS OF CERTAIN RIGHTS

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005

If a peace officer has reason to believe a sexual assault has occurred the peace officers **must** use all reasonable means to prevent further violence including but not limited to the following:

- ◆ If requested, remaining on the scene of the alleged sexual assault as long as there is a danger to the victim's physical safety without the presence of a peace officer.
- ◆ Assisting a victim in obtaining medical treatment necessitated by the sexual assault, including providing assistance to the victim in obtaining transportation to the emergency room of the nearest hospital.
- ◆ Providing a victim with immediate and adequate notice of the victim's rights. The notice shall consist of handing the victim a copy of a mandated statement written in English and Spanish, asking the victim to read the statement, and asking whether the victim understands the rights.

**IOWA SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE
1-800-284-7821**

Iowa Code § 709.22 provides that victims of sexual assault be given written notice of certain rights. The Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Abuse has produced and distributed the attached pocket cards for use by law enforcement and others working with victims of sexual assault. IowaCASA, 515 28th Street, Des Moines, IA 50312; phone 515-244-7424 (business hours); www.iowacasa.org