

Kansas Sexual Assault Kit Initiative

Multidisciplinary Working Group

The multidisciplinary working group is comprised of individuals from various backgrounds who bring a great deal of knowledge and experience related to the various stages of a sexual assault event. They provide unique and valuable perspectives and their input is intended to be representative of their respective stakeholder community and not their particular agency. As a group, their focus is to remain objective as they seek to identify the underlying factors that have contributed to the accumulation of unsubmitted sexual assault kits and develop sustainable, holistic, reform.

The following agencies and organizations have committed to participating on the working group:

- Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI)
- KBI Forensic Science Laboratory
- Office of the Kansas Attorney General
- Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSADV)
- Kansas Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses
- Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory
- Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center
- Kansas County and District Attorneys Association (KCDAA)
- Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP)
- Kansas Sheriffs Association (KSA)

Accomplishments

- Convened multidisciplinary team
- Initial statewide inventory is complete
- Actively engaged 12 agencies in test protocol
- Previously unsubmitted SAK testing is in progress
- Received federal funding in direct support of this initiative

Goals and Objectives

- Reduce victimization
- Encourage reporting of sexual assault
- Enhance victim services and support
- Fully utilize available science and technology to prevent and prosecute sexual assault cases
- Identify and prosecute serial offenders
- Eliminate factors contributing to SAK accumulation
- Refine training objectives in each stakeholder community
- Develop evidence-based protocols and model policy
- Create SAK tracking mechanism and provide victims information about the status of their case
- Ensure long-term success and prevent future accumulation of SAKs