First Response Volunteer Advocate

- Successfully completes the required Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) training and orientation to the SART facility or other training as specified
- Arrives within the designated time frame given at the time of the time of the call from the Emergency Department triage nurse
- Greets the victim, introduces self and explains advocate’s role
- Supports the victim during the medical-legal examination
- Advocates on behalf of the victim/survivor’s rights when necessary and appropriate
- Removes her/himself from any part of the process that the patient does not want the advocate to attend
- Does not participate in evidence collection for the SAFE
- Does not remain in examination room alone with evidence
- When presented with conflicting needs, defers to the choice of the victim/survivor (stay with victim or bring victim a refreshment)
- Offers various support measure options for the victim/survivor
- Facilitates informed decision-making
- Converses, reinforces explanations, queries regarding understanding, reassures during the examination
- Aids SAFE in monitoring tolerance of victim/survivor
- Provides information, referrals and education to victim/survivor
- Provides a written copy of Victim's Rights to the victim/survivor
Assesses sense of safety at time of discharge and helps to arrange for safe housing if placement is needed

Facilitates communications between all SART members and the victim/survivor with the exception of translation

Reinforces explanations by SAFE, law enforcement, prosecution and professional counselor when appropriate

Informs the family/friend(s) in the waiting room at the victim/survivor's request

Provides support for the family/friend(s) of victim/survivor

Acts as a liaison between SART members and the victim/survivor once a waiver has been obtained from the victim

Understands that they may be subpoenaed

At the request of the victim/survivor and as appropriate for an advocate, assists with comfort needs, without participating in the medically invasive procedures

Offers comfort measures during and after the medical-legal examination (shower, clothing, food, drink, access to parent support person)

Ensures that the victim leaves the SART facility safely, with family, friend, or law enforcement

Does not transport

Debriefs with SAFE to facilitate interdisciplinary communications with signed consent

Provides input to the SART, as an interdisciplinary member with signed consent

Respects the human dignity and the uniqueness of the victim, unrestricted by considerations of racial, age, social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of the health problems

Maintains respect for the victim/survivor in interdisciplinary communications

Maintains confidential communications
**Rape Crisis Advocate /SAVI Advocate**

The SAVI Advocates are active-duty military volunteers and provide care as in the First Response Volunteer Advocate above, with the following additions:

- Employees of the Rape Crisis Center
- Provides follow-up services within 72 hours post medical-legal exam
- Accompanies the victim/survivor to interviews by detective/law enforcement, district attorney or the defense attorney
- Provides emotional support to the victim/survivor throughout the criminal justice process and beyond
- Facilitates access to ongoing services as needed
- Acts as a liaison for the victim/survivor between members of the team to address questions, concerns, needs
- Works collaboratively with team members to ensure the provision of the quality services to the victim/survivor