# **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

# DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

*Family Violence Division* 214.653.3605

*Protective Orders Unit* 214.653.3528

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES**

Genesis Women's Shelter 214.942.2998

*The Family Place* 214.941.1991

*Brighter Tomorrows* 972.262.8383

New Beginning Center 972.276.0057

*Mosaic Family Services* 214.823.4434

*Dallas Resource Center* 214.528.0144

*VIP/Rape Crisis* 214.590.0430

DARCC/Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center 972-641-RAPE (7273)

# in the home is NEVER OK. It's not your fault. LET US HELP

# DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Frank Crowley Courts Building 133 N. Riverfront Blvd., LB 19 Dallas, Texas 75207 214-653-3528

# DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

FAMILY VIOLENCE PROSECUTION

SEXUAL ASSAULT PROSECUTION

# Family Violence/Sexual Assault Case Prosecution

All offenses (felony and misdemeanor) prosecuted by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office begin when a police department located within Dallas County files a case.

An officer may generate an offense report after responding to a 911 call for assistance or an encounter with a citizen who needs help. The citizen may be transported to a local hospital for a sexual assault medical exam. If the person who is alleged to have committed the crime is still at the scene when the officers arrive. he/she may be arrested. If the accused person is not at the scene, the officer may issue a warrant for their arrest. Further, the police department may assign an investigator to gather additional necessary information before a decision is made to charge someone with an offense. If the police determine there is probable cause to believe that the accused committed a crime, and they have him/her in custody, a case will be filed with the District Attorney's Office.

If the offense is a felony (a crime for which the accused might be sentenced to prison), it must go before a Grand Jury prior to formal charges being made against the accused. A Grand Jury hearing will be scheduled at which time a decision will be made by the Grand Jury to indict (true bill) or not indict (no bill) the accused. If a true bill of indictment is returned, a representative of the District Attorney's Office will contact the victim.

If the case is a misdemeanor, (a crime for which the accused might be sentenced to jail) the District Attorney will decide to accept or decline prosecution. If prosecution is accepted, the victim will be contacted by the District Attorney's Office.

# **Family Violence/Sexual Assault Team**

The Dallas County District Attorney's Office has a wide variety of personnel dedicated to assisting victims of family violence and sexual assault. Victims may encounter or be contacted by any or all of the following personnel:

**Prosecutor**: an Assistant District Attorney who will advocate for the victim in all criminal court proceedings, including trial and /or plea negotiations

**Investigator**: a licensed peace officer employed by the District Attorney to locate victims, witnesses, and evidence to assist the prosecution

**Victim Advocate**: a caseworker assigned to assist the victim with safety planning, counseling resources, community referrals, and court accompaniment if necessary

### **Victim/Witness Service**

**Coordinators**: personnel who provide assistance with Crime Victim
Compensation, travel, lodging, and victim impact statements

### **Protective Order Personnel:**

Assistant District Attorneys and Victim
Advocates who assist victims in obtaining
Protective Orders

The Dallas County District Attorney Office does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, age, veteran status, or disability. It is our intention that all applicants be given equal opportunity.