

# REPORTER'S RIGHTS AND OPTIONS Kirksville, Missouri

The following information provides a summary of your rights and options after filing a report of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence (including sexual assault), domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking at A.T. Still University ("ATSU" or "the University"). Please contact the Title IX Coordinator, or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator, if you have any questions about this information.

## I. General Information

- *Options.* Once you have made a report, you have several options, including, but not limited to:
  - Contacting parents or a relative
  - Seeking legal advice
  - Seeking personal counseling
  - Pursuing legal action against the perpetrator
  - Pursuing disciplinary action
  - Requesting no further action be taken
  - Requesting further information about the investigation and resolution process
- *Notifying Authorities.* If requested, the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator will assist you in contacting local law enforcement regarding the incident. You may decline to notify such authorities.
- *Restraining Orders.* If you have obtained or obtain a temporary restraining order or other no contact order against the alleged perpetrator from a criminal, civil, or tribal court, you may provide such information to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If provided, the ATSU will take all reasonable and legal action to implement the order.
- Requesting Changes to Your Current Situation or Other Protective Measures. Please inform
  the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator if you wish to change your academic,
  living, transportation, or working situation, if you want information about taking a leave of
  absence and related financial aid information, or if you want any other specific protective
  measure to be implemented. The University will make such accommodations or provide such
  protective measures if so requested and if they are reasonably available, regardless of
  whether you choose to report the incident to local law enforcement.
- Preservation of Evidence. It is extremely important that you preserve evidence as it may be
  necessary to prove the report you are making or need to obtain a protection order. In the
  case of physical violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence,
  you should go directly to the emergency room and should not bathe, urinate, douche, brush
  teeth, drink liquids, or change clothes until after you are examined and, if necessary and you
  so choose, a rape examination is completed by a trained forensic professional at the hospital.
  Having a forensic examination does not obligate you to file criminal charges. Evidence in

electronic formats should also be retained (e.g., text messages, emails, photos, social media posts, screenshots, etc.). This type of evidence is important and may be the only available evidence in cases of sexual harassment or stalking.

## II. Institutional Procedures

- ATSU's Policy No. 90-210, Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation and accompanying procedures (available at: <u>https://www.atsu.edu/prohibition-of-discrimination-harassment-and-retaliation</u>) govern reports of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence (including sexual assault), domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The procedures:
- Will provide a prompt, fair, and impartial resolution of your report, under the evidentiary standard of preponderance of the evidence, i.e., more likely than not that the alleged conduct occurred.
- Are carried out by University officials who have received training on these issues and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that promotes safety and accountability.
- Provide you and the respondent the right to have a support person/advisor accompany you to all aspects of the investigation and resolution process. A support person/advisor may not advocate for a party like an attorney would in court.
- Ensure both you and the respondent will be notified simultaneously in writing of the outcome of all stages of the process, including any appeals.
- Prohibit retaliation by the respondent or anyone else against you for making a report or against anyone else for participating in the investigation.
- If you desire to have a support person/advisor but cannot find someone that you are comfortable with, please contact the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator for assistance in doing so.

#### III. Possible Interim Measures and Sanctions

- Interim Measures. At any time during the investigation, the University may impose interim measures for the parties or witnesses for the protection of those involved and to ensure equal access to ATSU's educational programs and activities. These may include separating the parties, placing limitations on contact between the parties, suspension, or making alternative living, class-placement, or workplace arrangements.
- Sanctions. If there is a finding that a violation of the ATSU's Policy No. 90-210, Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation, has occurred, sanctions may include counseling or training, separation of the parties, and/or discipline of the respondent. Sanctions for employees may include a disciplinary warning to be added to the employee's file, probation, suspension with or without pay, and/or termination. Sanctions for students may include reprimand, a disciplinary warning to be added to the student's permanent file, probation, suspension, and/or dismissal.

## IV. Confidentiality

• ATSU cannot guarantee confidentiality to those who report incidents of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, except when those reports are made to ATSU Counseling Services. If the reporting party requests confidentiality or asks that a report not be

investigated, the University will take reasonable steps consistent with the request. However, the University's ability to respond to the allegation may be limited in such cases. ATSU may not be able to grant such a request when the allegation suggests a continuing threat to the University community.

- Throughout the investigation, the University will maintain as confidential any accommodations
  or protective measures provided to involved parties, to the extent maintaining such
  confidentiality does not impair the University's ability to provide such accommodations or
  protective measures.
- ATSU is required by law to make certain statistical disclosures of crimes reported to it. If an incident that is a crime is reported, the University will make the statistical disclosure without disclosing personally identifying information about the parties involved.

#### V. Resources Available

• ATSU Title IX Coordinator

John Gardner Director of Title IX & Training 800 West Jefferson Street Kirksville, MO 63501 660.626.2113 <u>titleix@atsu.edu</u>

 ATSU Deputy Title IX Coordinators Tonya Fitch Director of Human Resources Deputy Title IX Coordinator 5850 East Still Circle Mesa, AZ 85206-3618 480.219.6007 <u>tfitch@atsu.edu</u>

Michael Zajac Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Deputy Title IX Coordinator 5850 East Still Circle Mesa, AZ 85206-3618 480.219.6026 michaelzajac@atsu.edu

Donna Brown Assistant Vice President of Human Resources Deputy Title IX Coordinator 800 West Jefferson Street Kirksville, MO 63501 660.626.2790 dbrown@atsu.edu Lori Haxton Vice President for Student Affairs Deputy Title IX Coordinator 800 West Jefferson Street Kirksville, MO 63501 660.626.2236 Ihaxton@atsu.edu

• On-Campus Counseling (confidential resource for students)

ATSU Counseling Services (<u>http://www.atsu.edu/counseling\_services</u>) Missouri campus – Sarah Thomas, 660.626.2751, <u>snthomas@atsu.edu</u>

• Campus Security (<u>http://www.atsu.edu/security</u>)

Security Office – 33 (from on-campus landline) Non-Emergency Security – 660.626.2380/660.349.9513

Local Police

Emergency – 911 (off-campus) Emergency – 911 (on-campus) Kirksville Police Department – 660.785.6945

• Student Financial Aid

Katie Clay Director, Student Financial Aid 800 West Jefferson Street Kirksville, MO 63501 866.626.2878, ext. 2356 or 660.626.2356 kclay@atsu.edu

Hospital

Northeast Regional Medical Center 3155 N. Osteopathy Kirksville, MO 63501 660.785.1000

- Support Agencies/Hotlines
  - Victim Support Services, Inc. (Kirksville, Missouri) 660.665.1617
  - National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.799.7233
  - National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1.800.656.4673

Please contact the Title IX Coordinator to discuss other resources that may be available in the community

• Legal Assistance, Visa and Immigration Assistance

 Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Hannibal Branch Office 801 Broadway, #200 Hannibal, MO 63401 573.248.1111

Legal Services of Eastern Missouri 4232 Forest Park Avenue St. Louis, MO 63108 314.534.4200

- Immigration Advocates Network: <u>http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory/search?state=MO</u>
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services: <u>http://www.uscis.gov/about-us/find-uscis-office/field-offices/missouri</u>