

**STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)  
ON SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM  
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**Mission Statement:**

These goals and objectives are established by the SAC in order to benefit victims of sexual assault, to promote quality services for sexual assault victims and to meet our statutory obligations.

**Goal 1:**      Prosecutor Training

To develop a course of training for district attorneys in the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases, child sexual exploitation, and child sexual assault cases.

Objective

- a.      Develop training in child sexual exploitation to include, but not be limited to, child pornography and child sex rights.
- b.      Emphasize sensitivity to victims and the elimination of retraumatization of victims by the criminal justice system.
- c.      Educate regarding resources available to victims and prosecutors.
- d.      Include issues pertinent to victims with special needs.
- e.      In order to increase successful prosecution of cases, training must include trial skills, legal updates, forensic and medical evidence and experts.
- f.      Assert the SAC's statutory authority regarding prosecutor training topics to include, but not limit to college campuses, military and correctional facilities.

**Goal 2:** Funding for Sexual Assault Programs

To provide grants to proposed and existing local rape, child sexual exploitation, and child sexual abuse victim counseling centers.

Objectives

- a. Services for sexual assault victims should be available throughout the State.
- b. Identify geographic areas that are unserved or underserved and, to the extent possible, funding to establish or enhance services will be provided.
- c. Assess existing services throughout the State to ensure coordination and non-duplication of services.
- d. Develop alternative funding distribution options, including a review of base allocations, pilot projects, entitlements, and modification of funding criteria.
- e. Encourage fund development at the local level.

**Goal 3:** Funding Criteria

To identify the criteria to be utilized in awarding grants.

Objectives

- a. Review funding criteria and take into consideration the needs of the sexual assault field prior to issuing a Request-for-Proposals (RFP).
- b. Address the needs of ethnic minorities and the economically disadvantaged.
- c. Proposed service areas must have a demonstratable need for services.

**Goal 4:** Sex Crime Prosecution Units

To encourage the establishment of sex crime prosecution units, which shall include, but not be limited to child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse cases, in district attorneys' offices throughout the State.

Objectives

- a. Encourage district attorneys to assign well-trained prosecutors to sex crime cases.
- b. Encourage the vertical prosecution of sex crime cases.
- c. Encourage law enforcement agencies to offer specialized investigative services.
- d. Encourage participation in multidisciplinary approaches and models.

**Goal 5:** Legislative Advocacy

To seek the enforcement and development of legislation which will benefit victims of sexual assault?

Objectives

- a. Advocate for the increased funding of the Sexual Assault Victim Services Program.
- b. Advocate for enforcement of the collection of fines for the Penalty Assessment Fund.
- c. Advocate for the allocation of funds for primary prevention programs for children e.g. , Safe Start, etc.).
- d. Advocate for funding to revise and periodically update the Medical Protocol for the Examination of Sexual Assault Victims.
- e. Advocate for funds to promote and implement multidisciplinary models.
- f. Advocate for funds for research in the field of sexual assault (medical and forensic).
- g. Advocate for funds for the development of a program for certification of sexual assault examiners.
- h. Advocate for the mandatory training of judges.
- i. Promote federal legislation that will exempt victims of sexual assault from income means-testing to qualify for services under certain federal assistance programs (e.g., Community Development Block Grant Program, etc.).
- j. Promote legislation that will require P.O.S.T. to ensure that mandated training specified in Penal Code Sections 13516 and 13517 be offered.

Goal 6: Medical Treatment

To provide optimal medical and forensic evaluation and medical treatment for every victim of sexual assault.

Objectives

- a. Periodically revise and update the Medical Protocol for the Examination of Sexual Assault Victims.
- b. Provide periodic training and updates for sexual assault examiners.
- c. Promote the development and implementation of multidisciplinary models (e.g., S.A.R.T.).
- d. Promote medical and forensic research concerning sexual assault issues.
- e. Promote consistent and high quality evidentiary examinations through statewide certification of medical examination.
- f. Educate governmental agencies about their statutory obligation to pay for evidentiary examinations.
- g. Telemedicine

Goal 7: SAC Diversity

The Composition of the SAC should reflect the diversity of the State of California.

Objectives

- a. Encourage the appointing authorities to make appointments which are consistent with this goal.
- b. Encourage individual SAC members to explore diverse points of view and represent those views.