

## **Response to Reports (Section 6444)**

1. Mahanaim shall ensure that, at a minimum, at the first instance of disclosure by a reporting individual to an institution representative, the following information shall be presented to the reporting individual:

“You have the right to make a report to campus safety, local law enforcement, and/or state police or choose not to report; to report the incident to your institution; to be protected by the institution from retaliation for reporting an incident; and to receive assistance and resources from your institution.”

2. Mahanaim shall ensure that reporting individuals are advised of their right to:

a. Three options to proceed:

- Notify Mahanaim Campus Safety (631) 944-4400, local law enforcement Huntington Police Department (631) 854-8x200 and/or state police 24-hour hotline 1.844.845.7269
- Be assisted by campus security authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and
- decline to notify such authorities.

b. Have emergency access to a Title IX Coordinator or other appropriate official trained in interviewing victims of sexual assault who shall be available upon the first instance of disclosure by a reporting individual to provide information regarding options to proceed, and, where applicable, the importance of preserving evidence and obtaining a sexual assault forensic examination as soon as possible, and detailing that the criminal justice process utilizes different standards of proof and evidence and that any questions about whether a specific incident violated the penal law should be addressed to law enforcement or to the district attorney. (Such official shall also explain whether he or she is authorized to offer the reporting individual confidentiality or privacy, and shall inform the reporting individual of other reporting options. )

c. Disclose confidentially the incident to institution representatives, who may offer confidentiality pursuant to applicable laws and can assist in obtaining services for reporting individuals;

d. Disclose confidentially the incident and obtain services from the state or local government;

e. Disclose the incident to institution representatives who can offer privacy or confidentiality, as appropriate, and can assist in obtaining resources for reporting individuals;

f. File a report of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking and the right to consult the Title IX Coordinator and other appropriate institution representatives for information and assistance. Reports shall be investigated in accordance with institution policy and a reporting individual's identity shall remain private at all times if said reporting individual wishes to maintain privacy;

g. Disclose, if the accused is an employee of the institution, the incident to the institution's human resources authority or the right to request that a confidential or private employee assist in reporting to the appropriate human resources authority;

h. Receive assistance from appropriate institution representatives in initiating legal proceedings in family court or civil court; and

i. Withdraw a complaint or involvement from the institution process at any time.

3. Ensure that reporting individuals have information about resources, including intervention, mental health counseling, and medical services, which shall include information on whether such resources are available at no cost or for a fee. Mahanaim shall also provide information on sexually transmitted infections, sexual assault forensic examinations, and resources available through the New York state office of victim services, pursuant to Executive law section 622 shall be provided.

4. Mahanaim shall ensure that individuals are provided the following protections and accommodations:

- a. When the accused or respondent is a student, to have the institution issue a "no contact order" consistent with institution policies and procedures, whereby continued intentional contact with the reporting individual would be a violation of institution policy subject to additional conduct charges; if the accused or respondent and a reporting individual observe each other in a public place, it shall be the responsibility of the accused or respondent to leave the area immediately and without directly contacting the reporting individual. Both the accused or respondent and the reporting individual shall, upon request and consistent with institution policies and procedures, be afforded a prompt review, reasonable under the circumstances, of the need for and terms of a no contact order, including potential modification, and shall be allowed to submit evidence in support of his or her request. Institutions may establish an appropriate schedule for the accused and respondents to access applicable institution buildings and property at a time when such buildings and property are not being accessed by the reporting individual;
- b. To be assisted by the institution's police or security forces, if applicable, or other officials in obtaining an order of protection or, if outside of New York state, an equivalent protective or restraining order;
- c. To receive a copy of the order of protection or equivalent when received by an institution and have an opportunity to meet or speak with an institution representative, or other appropriate individual, who can explain the order and answer questions about it, including information from the order about the accused's responsibility to stay away from the protected person or persons;
- d. To an explanation of the consequences for violating these orders, including but not limited to arrest, additional conduct charges, and interim suspension;

- e. To receive assistance from campus security in effecting an arrest when an individual violates an order of protection or, if campus security does not possess arresting powers, then to call on and assist local law enforcement in effecting an arrest for violating such an order, provided that nothing in this article shall limit current law enforcement jurisdiction and procedures;
- f. When the accused or respondent is a student determined to present a continuing threat to the health and safety of the community, to subject the accused or respondent to interim suspension pending the outcome of a judicial or conduct process consistent with this article and the institution's policies and procedures. Both the accused or respondent and the reporting individual shall, upon request and consistent with the institution's policies and procedures, be afforded a prompt review, reasonable under the circumstances, of the need for and terms of an interim suspension, including potential modification, and shall be allowed to submit evidence in support of his or her request;
- g. When the accused is not a student but is a member of the institution's community and presents a continuing threat to the health and safety of the community, to subject the accused to interim measures in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements, employee handbooks, and rules and policies of the institution;
- h. To obtain reasonable and available interim measures and accommodations that effect a change in academic, employment, transportation or other applicable arrangements in order to help ensure safety, prevent retaliation and avoid an ongoing hostile environment, consistent with the institution's policies and procedures. Both the accused or respondent and the reporting individual shall, upon request and consistent with the institution's policies and procedures, be afforded a prompt review, reasonable under the circumstances, of the need for and terms of any such interim measure and accommodation that directly affects him or her, and shall be allowed to submit evidence in support of his or her request.

5. Every institution shall ensure that every student be afforded the following rights:

- a. The right to request that student conduct charges be filed against the accused in proceedings governed by this article and the procedures established by the institution's rules.
- b. The right to a process in all student judicial or conduct cases, where a student is accused of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual activity that may otherwise violate the institution's code of conduct, that includes, at a minimum:
  - (i) Notice to a respondent describing the date, time, location and factual allegations concerning the violation, a reference to the specific code of conduct provisions alleged to have been violated, and possible sanctions;
  - (ii) An opportunity to offer evidence during an investigation, and to present evidence and testimony at a hearing, where appropriate, and have access to a full and fair record of any such hearing, which shall be preserved and maintained for at least five years from such a hearing and may include a transcript, recording or other appropriate record; and
  - (iii) Access to at least one level of appeal of a determination before a panel, which may include one or more students, that is fair and impartial and does not include individuals

with a conflict of interest. In order to effectuate an appeal, a respondent and reporting individual in such cases shall receive written notice of the findings of fact, the decision and the sanction, if any, as well as the rationale for the decision and sanction. In such cases, any rights provided to a reporting individual must be similarly provided to a respondent and any rights provided to a respondent must be similarly provided to a reporting individual.

c. Throughout proceedings involving such an accusation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual activity that may otherwise violate the institution's code of conduct, the right:

- For the respondent, accused, and reporting individual to be accompanied by an advisor of choice who may assist and advise a reporting individual, accused, or respondent throughout the judicial or conduct process including during all meetings and hearings related to such process. Rules for participation of such advisor shall be established in the code of conduct.
- To a prompt response to any complaint and to have the complaint investigated and adjudicated in an impartial, timely, and thorough manner by individuals who receive annual training in conducting investigations of sexual violence, the effects of trauma, impartiality, the rights of the respondent, including the right to a presumption that the respondent is “not responsible” until a finding of responsibility is made pursuant to the provisions of this article and the institution's policies and procedures, and other issues including, but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking or sexual assault.
- To an investigation and process that is fair, impartial and provides a meaningful opportunity to be heard, and that is not conducted by individuals with a conflict of interest.
- To have the institution's judicial or conduct process run concurrently with a criminal justice investigation and proceeding, except for temporary delays as requested by external municipal entities while law enforcement gathers evidence. Temporary delays should not last more than ten days except when law enforcement specifically requests and justifies a longer delay.
- To review and present available evidence in the case file, or otherwise in the possession or control of the institution, and relevant to the conduct case, consistent with institution policies and procedures.
- To exclude their own prior sexual history with persons other than the other party in the judicial or conduct process or their own mental health diagnosis and/or treatment from admittance in the institution disciplinary stage that determines responsibility. Past findings of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault may be admissible in the disciplinary stage that determines sanction.
- To receive written or electronic notice, provided in advance pursuant to the school policy and reasonable under the circumstances, of any meeting they are required to or are eligible to attend, of the specific rule, rules or laws alleged to have been violated and in what manner, and the sanction or sanctions that may be imposed on the respondent based upon the outcome of the judicial or conduct process, at which time the designated hearing or investigatory officer or panel shall provide a written statement detailing the factual findings supporting the determination and the rationale for the sanction imposed.

- To make an impact statement during the point of the proceeding where the decision maker is deliberating on appropriate sanctions.
- To simultaneous (among the parties) written or electronic notification of the outcome of a judicial or conduct process, including the sanction or sanctions.
- To be informed of the sanction or sanctions that may be imposed on the respondent based upon the outcome of the judicial or conduct process and the rationale for the actual sanction imposed.
- To choose whether to disclose or discuss the outcome of a conduct or judicial process.
- To have all information obtained during the course of the conduct or judicial process be protected from public release until the appeals panel makes a final determination unless otherwise required by law.

6. For crimes of violence, including, but not limited to sexual violence, defined as crimes that meet the reporting requirements pursuant to the federal Clery Act established in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)(F)(i)(I)-(VIII), institutions shall make a notation on the transcript of students found responsible after a conduct process that they were “suspended after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation” or “expelled after a finding of responsibility for a code of conduct violation.” For the respondent who withdraws from the institution while such conduct charges are pending, and declines to complete the disciplinary process, institutions shall make a notation on the transcript of such students that they “withdrew with conduct charges pending.” The institution shall publish a policy on transcript notations and appeals seeking removal of a transcript notation for a suspension, provided that such notation shall not be removed prior to one year after conclusion of the suspension, while notations for expulsion shall not be removed. If a finding of responsibility is vacated for any reason, any such transcript notation shall be removed.

7. Mahanaim has close association with existing community-based organizations, including rape-crisis centers and domestic violence shelters and assistance organizations, to refer students for assistance or make services available to students, including counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, and legal assistance, which may also include resources and services for the respondent. These resources are provided under Resources and Support on the website.

8. Further, the Mahanaim strives to ensure that students have access to sexual assault forensic examination and has included resources in the Resources and Support on the website.