

73. (Services) What interaction do investigators have with SAMFEs/SANEs and the collection of evidence?

USA	<p>Investigators work hand in hand with the SAMFE/SANE during the examination process. They coordinate with the SAMFE/SANE for examinations of both the victim and subject. Investigators do not physically assist with the examination, but instead provide details of the incident to the SAMFE/SANE and may recommend additional procedures based on the incident (e.g., ask the SAMFE/SANE to scan the victim's body with an ultraviolet lamp to look for seminal fluid and fibers). At the conclusion of the examination, investigators collect the SAFE kit, other additional evidence, and the report from the SAMFE/SANE. Additionally, investigators conduct joint training with the SAMFE/SANE and other personnel involved in the investigative process (e.g., prosecutors or trial counsel).</p> <p>Supplemental response:</p> <p>The Office of the Surgeon General provided the following supplement to the U.S. Army response:</p> <p>MTF personnel contact CID when the SAFE is complete and complete the chain of custody documents to release the DOD Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit. There is normally an MP present, or an investigator, when a suspect is going through a SAFE examination.</p>
USAF	<p>At those locations where a SAMFE or SANE are available to conduct sexual assault examinations, AFOSI agents (for unrestricted cases) do consult with the SAFME or SANE professionals, just as they would do with any other medical provider in such cases. AFOSI policy requires agents to receive and store SAFE kits and any clothes or other evidence collected from the victim. Agents review the written protocol (included in the SAFE kit) completed by the provider to ensure it is fully filled out. Agents interview the provider to determine what findings they made during the examination and report this information in the ROI.</p> <p>Investigators will report to the exam location and take possession of the evidence kit in order to maintain appropriate chain of custody. They are also available for consultation regarding any additional evidence collection that may be requested.</p>
USN	<p>While not required by policy or regulation, NCIS has identified a best practice for NCIS investigators to familiarize themselves with the local personnel, military and civilian, who conduct Sexual Assault Forensic Exams and facilities in advance of an actual examination. As part of the familiarization process, NCIS investigators discuss evidence recovery, packaging and chain of custody with medical personnel as well as the proper safety procedures for suspect examinations and protocols regarding suspect consent or search warrant examinations. NCIS investigators frequently attend/participate in training exercises or refresher training with the medical personnel. During an actual event requiring an examination, NCIS personnel meet briefly with the attending medical personnel to discuss the available details of the reported assault and any specific requirements for the examination. Following the</p>

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	<p>examination, the NCIS investigator collects the kit, discusses the results of the examination with the medical personnel and plans follow up actions such as photographs.</p> <p>SAFE providers are trained to hand over SAFE kits to NCIS directly and maintain chain of custody for unrestricted cases.</p>
USMC	<p>While not required by policy or regulation, NCIS has identified a best practice for NCIS investigators to familiarize themselves with the local SANE personnel and facilities in advance of an actual examination. As part of the familiarization process, NCIS investigators should discuss evidence recovery, packaging and chain of custody with SANE personnel as well as the proper safety procedures for suspect examinations and protocols regarding suspect consent or search warrant examinations. NCIS investigators frequently attend/participate in training exercises or refresher training with the SANE personnel. During an actual event requiring an examination, NCIS personnel meet briefly with the attending SANE to discuss the available details of the reported assault and any specific requirements for the examination. Following the examination, the NCIS investigator collects the kit, discusses the results of the examination with the SANE and plans follow up actions such as photographs.</p> <p>SAFE providers are trained to hand over SAFE kits to NCIS directly and maintain chain of custody for unrestricted cases.</p>
USCG	<p>In the appropriate fact pattern case and when available, SAMFEs/SANEs are used for the collection of evidence. CGIS sexual assault cases frequently involve delayed reporting thereby rendering evidence collection problematic. In addition, there are a small number of cases where sexual assault is reported in remote posts and no trained medical professional is available. CGIS is currently investigating a National Institute of Justice pilot project on telemedicine that provides sexual assault investigative support for remotely located victims.</p>

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