



RHODE ISLAND

Specific requirement to report sexual assault? Rhode Island requires any person, other than the victim, who knows or has reason to know that a first degree sexual assault or attempted first degree sexual assault is taking place in his or her presence shall immediately notify the state police or the police department of the city or town in which the assault or attempted assault is taking place.

Requirement to report non-accidental or intentional injuries? No.

Requirement to report injuries caused by criminal conduct? No.

Additional statutes that may impact competent adult victims of sexual assault? It is mandatory to report gunshot wounds.

STATUTES ADDRESSING PAYMENT FOR EXAMINATIONS

R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17-26. Emergency health care

(a) Every health care facility that has an emergency medical care unit shall provide to every person prompt life saving medical care treatment in an emergency, and a sexual assault examination for victims of sexual assault without discrimination on account of economic status or source of payment, and without delaying treatment for the purpose of a prior discussion of the source of payment unless the delay can be imposed without material risk to the health of the person.

(b) Violations of this section shall be reported to the director of the state department of health who shall investigate the violations as the director deems appropriate.

REPORTING STATUTES WHICH MAY IMPACT RAPE VICTIMS

R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-37-3.1. Duty to report sexual assault

Any person, other than the victim, who knows or has reason to know that a first degree sexual assault or attempted first degree sexual assault is taking place in his or her presence shall immediately notify the state police or the police department of the city or town in which the assault or attempted assault is taking place of the crime.

R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-37-3.3. Failure to report – Penalty

Any person who knowingly fails to report a sexual assault or attempted sexual assault as required under § 11-37-3.1 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than one year, or fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or both.

For more information, please contact the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office at 703-696-9422



R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-47-48. Report of gunshot wounds

Every physician attending or treating a case of bullet wound, gunshot wound, powder burn, or any other injury arising from or caused by the discharge of a gun, pistol, or other firearm, or whenever any case is treated in a hospital, sanitarium, dispensary, or other institution the person in charge of it, shall report the case at once to the police authorities of the town or city where the physician, hospital, sanitarium, dispensary or institution is located. This section shall not apply to wounds, burns, or injuries received by any member of the armed forces of the United States or of this state while engaged in the actual performance of duty. Whoever violates any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

HISTORY: P.L. 1929, ch. 1384, § 1; G.L. 1938, ch. 607, § 13; G.L. 1956, § 11-47-38; G.L. 1956, § 11-47-48; P.L. 1959, ch. 75, § 1.