

# WHAT IS THE VICTIM SUPPORT TEAM?

The Seattle Police Department's Victim Support Team (VST) is a community volunteer program that provides information and support during the time immediately following a domestic violence incident.

**VST members are volunteers, not police officers.** The role of VST is to help you make a plan to stay safe and offer resources. VST volunteers are not counselors. Speaking with a VST volunteer is completely optional. Your conversation with VST is not confidential, however the VST volunteers can give you phone numbers of confidential hotlines.

## AT THE REQUEST OF AN OFFICER, VST IS AVAILABLE TO:

- Listen and provide support.
- Help you locate emergency resources such as safe housing, clothes, food, or medical care.
- Give information about Protection Orders and community resources.
- Answer questions about the next steps in the criminal justice system.
- If safe, provide transportation.

# ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND INFORMATION

The VST Follow-up Advocate will be contacting you early next week to answer any questions you might have about the resources provided to you by the VST team, and to offer additional support.

The VST Follow-up Advocate can also provide referrals to:

- **Community Domestic Violence Advocates**, with whom you can speak to confidentially regarding your safety. These advocates also provide access to legal services, emergency housing, and support groups.
- **Court Based Advocates**, who are able to help you navigate the investigation and court processes.
- **Protection Order Advocates**, who are available to assist with the process of getting a civil Protection Order. A Protection Order can be obtained as early as Monday morning at the King County Courthouse (Downtown Seattle) or the Regional Justice Center (Kent).

You may contact the VST Follow-up Advocate directly Monday-Friday 8-4pm: (206) 386-9039



# VST

**VST VOICE MAIL  
(206) 684-7721**



**SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**