

CHECKLIST FOR INITIAL MEETINGS

These are things to review and keep in mind as you practice meeting with victims so when you complete training these will all be second nature to you.

Read the  as "Listen, ... "

-  Victims may feel they have had control of their lives taken away from them
-  VAs must never make decisions for victims
-  VAs do not judge or lecture victims after they have made their decisions
-  Victims are permitted to choose whether or not to participate in investigations
-  Victims have the right to choose whether or not to have forensic and medical exams
-  Victims can choose whether or not to make statements
-  Victims can provide their desires for relocation, although these may not be able to be met
-  Victims have the right to counseling services
-  Victims should be given as much credibility as victim of other crimes
-  Victims are considered victims of sexual assault regardless of their own behavior at the time of the assault
-  Victims are considered victims of sexual assault regardless of their relationships to the assailants
-  Victims choose whether or not to accept advocacy services

Also remember the federal and military law:

VICTIM'S RIGHTS

Victims have the right to:

1. Be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.
2. Be reasonably protected from the accused.
3. Be notified of court proceedings.
4. Be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense, unless the court determines that testimony by the victim would be materially affected if the victim heard other testimony at trial.
5. Confer with trial counsel.
6. Receive available restitution
7. Information about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the accused.