



# Where to Start Toolkit

## Sample Introductory Script



### Sample Script Introducing Sexual Assault Legal Services to Clients

Use and adapt this script in a way that suits your organizational needs.

Keep in mind the following:

- Survivors will not likely disclose sexual violence if they aren't aware that you offer sexual assault-specific services;
- It may be uncomfortable for survivors to broach the subject of sexual violence; a prompt from you will open the door for survivors contacting your office to talk about sexual violence and get help;
- Survivors of domestic violence may not disclose the sexual violence aspect of the abuse unless you ask specific questions about sexual violence;
- If you are a legal services agency that offers sexual assault-specific legal services, and your organization uses a general intake line, it is advisable to add a line to the general intake questions that indicates your organization offers sexual assault-specific legal services. *For example, "Our office provides legal services to individuals who have been sexually assaulted by someone they know or by a stranger. Does this apply to your situation?"*

#### **Introducing Sexual Assault Legal Services to Clients at a Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, or Dual Agency or at a Law Office:**

"Our office provides legal services to clients who have been sexually assaulted by someone they know or by a stranger. In addition to criminal remedies, victims of sexual assault may have distinct civil legal remedies available to them as a result of the assault(s). Some of these legal rights may help victims with issues related to their housing, employment, education, privacy, immigration status, public benefits, and/or their safety. Would you be interested in learning more about these services?"

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