



You Decide Who Looks At Your Rape Crisis Center Records

Your records at a rape crisis center are absolutely private even if you have a guardian. You control who looks at your rape crisis center records. You do not have to tell anyone what you talk about with your counselor.

You can decide if your guardian can look at your rape crisis center records.

You can give up the right to keep your rape crisis center records private if you think it will help you to let someone else (like a lawyer or a social worker) see your records.

If a judge decides you are not able to make this decision, the judge can say it's okay for your guardian to see your records if the judge thinks that is best for you.

Background

In the past, sometimes people would not go to counseling because they didn't want their guardians to see their records.

To fix the problem, the law was changed to give you the right to control your records. [735 ILCS 5/8-802.1](#).

The law changed because of the work of self-advocates. They worked with:

- Illinois Imagines Project
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Other groups that help people with disabilities

Questions?

Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
217.753.4117
www.icasa.org

Illinois Department of Human Services
Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Unit
217.558.6192 or teresa.tudor@illinois.gov