



ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Special Victims Unit
(SVU)

CASES HANDLED BY THE SVU

- Sexual Assault in all degrees (ages 16 and above)
- Harassment
- Stalking
- Sex Offender Registration Violations
- Indecent Exposure



PRIORITY ONE REQUIREMENTS

- Victim is 16 years or older
- Victim's safety is at risk if no call out is done
- Victim is the child of the suspect and lives in the home with the suspect
- Alleged penetration or attempted penetration
- Assault occurred within 1 week
- Victim is willing to have a SART exam
- Occurred within APD's service area



REVIEWED CASES

- Misdemeanor Cases handled by patrol
- Cases with no possible investigation
 - Impossible facts



2021 STATISTICS

- 500 Reported
- 206 Priority One Sexual Assaults
- 255 Assigned Cases (in addition to P1's)
- 416 Cases Reviewed
- 39 Referred with an Arrest Tracking Number
- 45 Discussed and Declined



2022 STATISTICS

- 492 Reported
- 236 Priority One Sexual Assaults
- 204 Assigned Cases (in addition to P1's)
- 311 Cases Reviewed
- 16 Referred with an Arrest Tracking Number
- 48 Discussed and Declined



2023 STATISTICS

- 427 Reported
- 273 Priority One Sexual Assaults
- 182 Assigned Cases (in addition to P1's)
- 338 Cases Reviewed
- 35 Referred with an Arrest Tracking Number
- 48 Discussed and Declined



PROSECUTORIAL STRUGGLES

- Victims must be willing to participate from start to finish (completely their prerogative)
 - SART exams are very intrusive
 - Requires re-traumatizing the victims (they have to tell their story again)
 - Should they revoke their involvement, the case is suspended pending them changing their mind
- MANY cases are based on “he said – she said” stories. We must have some sort of positive affirmation that the victim not consenting to the sexual act
- We give the victim the power to steer the ship throughout the process of the investigation
- SVU has 8 detectives to handle this workload with the expectation of calls coming in 24/7/365
- Limited staffing at the District Attorney’s Office
- COVID



• Questions?

THANK YOU

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