

# SEEK THEN SPEAK

## Step-By-Step: How STS Works



### Step 1: Access STS Website

*Begin by visiting the Seek Then Speak website at <https://www.seekthenspeakwa.com/>*

**Choose Your Language:** The platform offers browser-based translation to accommodate users of different languages. Select your preferred language to ensure you fully understand the process.

**Explore Information and Options:** If you prefer, take your time to explore the resources and information available in the "Seek" section. If you're not ready to start the interview, you can simply use this section to understand your options and make informed decisions without moving forward in the process.

*Some survivors find that reporting gives them a sense of control, while others choose not to report and focus on healing their own way. Both choices are valid, everyone's path is different. Seek Then Speak aims to provide you with information and options, helping you make the decisions that feel right for you.*

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### Step 2: Begin the Report

**Start the Interview:** When you're ready, you'll be guided through a series of questions designed to collect essential details about your sexual assault. The questions include prompts that clarify why the information is important and how it will be used. You can provide as much or as little information as you feel comfortable.

**During the Interview:** Take your time as you complete the interview and take care of yourself during the process. Remember, you can pause at any time-there's no need to complete it in one sitting. You're in control, and you can resume whenever you're comfortable.

*Please note, if you clear your cache, you will have to restart your report.*

**Complete the Interview:** After answering all the questions, the platform generates a PDF report that compiles your responses. You can keep this report for your personal records or submit to law enforcement. *The website will not save your report, and it will not automatically forward your report to law enforcement.*

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### Step 3: Submit the Report

*You Decide What Happens Next:*

**Save or Submit:** Once you complete your report, you can choose to save it for your own records or submit to police. If you're not ready to submit it to law enforcement, that's okay. You can hold onto it and decide later on.

**Submit the Report to Law Enforcement:** If you decide to report to SPD, you have a few options for submitting the report.

- You can email your PDF to [SPDRecordsDataEntry@SpokanePolice.org](mailto:SPDRecordsDataEntry@SpokanePolice.org) if you do not want immediate police contact.
- You can call Crime Check at (509)456-2233 and let them know you would like to submit a STS report. You can also let them know if you would like an officer to contact you.

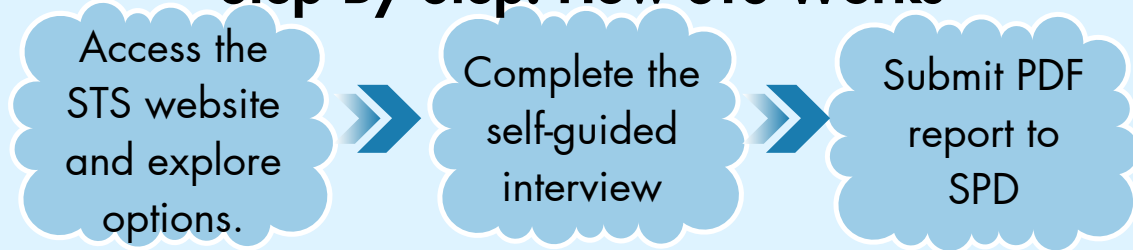
*Protect Your Privacy:*

**Your Info is Protected:** Your data is never automatically shared with anyone, including police, without your consent. SPD will only receive your report if and when you choose to email it to them directly.

**Clear Data from Your Device:** Once you're finished, you'll be prompted to clear your data. STS does not upload or store your information; instead, it temporarily saves it to your device's cache so you can start and stop during the interview. Clearing this data ensures that your information is protected.

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### Next Steps

**Confidentiality:** It's important to note that once you submit a report to SPD, it becomes a part of the official police record, and eventually their public record. That means police and prosecutors will be able to read it and, if the case ever goes to court, so will the defense attorney and judge. It also means you or a member of the community may request a copy of the record that will have names and other identifying information removed for privacy, in accordance with the Public Records Act.

### After You Submit Your Report:

- All STS reports received will be reviewed in the Special Victims Unit (SVU) to determine next steps for the case.
- If your report meets certain criteria, a detective may follow up with you to gather more information and potentially start an investigation.
- Every survivor who submits a STS report to [eraspdrde@spokanepolice.org](mailto:eraspdrde@spokanepolice.org) will be contacted by the SPD Victim Advocate who can answer questions, offer support, and connect you with resources.

### For Survivors:

If you or someone you love has experienced sexual violence, we are deeply sorry this happened to you. Choosing to seek help or share your story with others shows incredible bravery and resilience. We encourage you to reach out for additional support as you continue on your healing journey.

### Additional Resources:

Local: Contact the LCSNW Sexual Assault 24-hour Support Line at (509)624-7273