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# SAKI Cold Case Investigations

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# Cold case sexual assault investigations present unique challenges

- Statute of Limitations
- Victim Cooperation
- Hurdles created during the initial investigation
- Evidence Retention
- Cases span multiple jurisdictions

How do we overcome the challenges presented in Cold Case Sexual Assaults?



# Demonstrate Empathy

- Utilize a victim advocate
- Be trauma informed
- Do in-person notification when possible

em • pa • thy

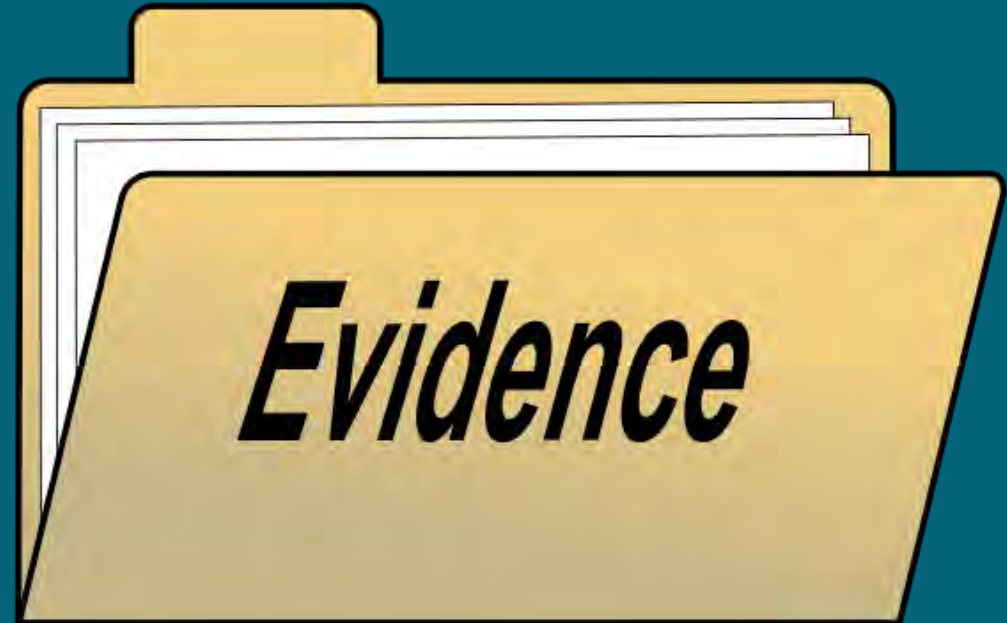
*n. /'em-pə-thē/ or /ɛmpəθi/*

the action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner.

Merriam Webster

# What information is available for follow-up?

- Is there a physical case file?
- Are there recorded interviews?
- Are the victim, witness(es), and/or suspect still alive/available to testify?



# Investigative Hurdles

- Evidence retention
- Initial investigator(s) bias/subjective opinion
- Memory
- Victim Cooperation



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*“The prosecutor won’t charge this case”*



# Locate

- NCIC
- TLO
- Accurint
- MVD
- Social Media (Facebook?)



A close-up photograph of a police car's emergency light, which is illuminated with a bright blue glow. The light is mounted on a dark surface, and its lens is slightly curved. In the background, there are numerous out-of-focus lights in various colors, including yellow, white, red, and blue, suggesting a city street at night. The overall scene is dark, with the blue light being the primary source of illumination.

Some cases might not move forward to prosecution as a result of various challenges

# Serial Offender

- Jurisdiction?
- Buy in from all agencies involved



## Experience with SAKI cases

- A DNA match does not determine consent
- Multiple challenging cases can equal a prosecutable case
- A fresh review may determine probable cause for arrest
- Closure to the case



Questions?

# Contact Information

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