

FAQS ABOUT FORENSIC INTERVIEWS

1

WHAT IS A FORENSIC INTERVIEW?

A forensic interview is a simple fact-finding conversation. The Interviewer is trained to ask questions in a non-leading way to gather the information that is needed.

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WHO ARE THE FORENSIC INTERVIEWERS?

The forensic interviewers are Law Enforcement Officers assigned to our unit, as well as Investigators from the Department of Children and Families. Each Interviewer has been trained by the National Child Advocacy Center (NCAC).

3

CAN I WATCH MY CHILD'S INTERVIEW?

Parents are not allowed to view the forensic interview. Forensic interviews are a part of an investigation, only the Investigators working on the case are allowed to view the interviews. These policies are not made to keep information from the parents, rather to protect your child during the investigation process. When the interview is complete, the Investigators will meet with the child's parent or guardian to explain everything that happened in the interview and what the planned next steps will be.

4

WHY IS MY CHILD INTERVIEWED AT THE CAC?

Children are interviewed at the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) because it is a space that is designed to be a welcoming, private, and comfortable location for children to be interviewed. Our office has a family room for family members & support people to wait with a closet full of toys. The interview room was designed to be a private and comfortable space to talk.