

**PRESS RELEASE**



**For Immediate Release**

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**MADIGAN: ILLINOIS SANE TRAINING IN SPRINGFIELD  
FEBRUARY 6-10**

***STATEWIDE CLASSROOM DIRECTED BY MADIGAN'S SANE  
COORDINATOR***

Chicago – An estimated 50 health care professionals from throughout Illinois are scheduled to participate in a rigorous five-day training hosted by Attorney General Lisa Madigan to fulfill the classroom requirement for certification as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE).

Madigan said the training, to be held February 6-10 at the Hilton Garden Inn, on South Dirksen Parkway in Springfield, will provide registered nurses with the opportunity to meet the International Association of Forensic Nurses certification process for SANEs.

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is a registered nurse who has been specially trained to provide comprehensive care to sexual assault patients in a medical environment. SANEs receive specialized training in evidence collection techniques to gather physical evidence in sexual assault cases. Almost no other criminal offense requires as extensive an examination and collection of evidence as a sexual assault, Madigan said. Physical evidence, like DNA or hair and nail fiber, can increase the chances of a conviction, and having such evidence can help to relieve some of the pressure experienced by the victim. SANEs also appear as expert witnesses during court proceedings.

“Nurses provide sexual assault victims with prompt, gentle and compassionate care they so desperately need,” Madigan said. “Through our efforts, we hope to train hundreds of skilled Illinois professionals each year with high quality education and support for RNs and others who serve the critical needs of sexual assault survivors.”

Madigan’s SANE Coordinator for Illinois, Julie Garner-Teno — a registered nurse, SANE and member of the International Association of Forensic Nurses — will oversee the

40-hour training. Madigan said physicians, law enforcement, prosecutors and victim advocates also are encouraged to attend to gain information that will assist them in working with SANEs, sexual assault victims and in evidence collection. All of these professionals in the criminal justice system must work together effectively to hold sex offenders accountable.

Madigan said two additional SANE training sessions are scheduled for March 27-31 in Carterville and May 15-19 in Itasca.

With statistics showing that more than 16 women report being raped each day in Illinois, Madigan's Crime Victim Services Division oversees several programs for victims of sexual assault and violent crime. More information about these programs is available online at [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/victims](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/victims) and [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/women](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/women) or by calling the Attorney General's Toll Free Victim Assistance Line 1-800-228-3368.

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