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MADIGAN: SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SANE TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 27-31

STATEWIDE CLASSROOM DIRECTED BY MADIGAN'S SANE COORDINATOR

Chicago – More than 50 central and southern Illinoisans are registered to participate in a rigorous five-day Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) training hosted by Attorney General Lisa Madigan March 27-31 at John A. Logan College in Carterville.

The 40-hour educational training will provide registered nurses with the opportunity to meet the classroom requirement of the International Association of Forensic Nurses certification process for SANEs. The sessions will be held in Room H-127 of the Construction Management & Workforce Development Building on the JALC campus, 700 Logan College Road. It is the second of three SANE trainings conducted by Madigan's office this year.

Madigan is scheduled to deliver remarks to participants beginning at 10:30 a.m., Monday, March 27, at the training site.

"It was very gratifying to see many other professionals, in addition to nurses, who attended last month's training in Springfield," Madigan said. "SANE training can help all of us work together to better protect Illinoisans from the traumatic effects of sexual assault."

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) 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. 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. "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."

Office of the Illinois Attorney General - Southern Illinois Sane Training

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 learn information that will assist them in working with SANEs, sexual assault victims and in evidence collection.

Madigan said a third SANE training session is scheduled for 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 and

<u>www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/women</u> or by call ing the Attorney General's Toll Free Victim Assistance Line 1-800-228-3368.

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