

Directions

The SAFE Center is located at **3701 Power Inn Rd., 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95826**. It is located inside the same building as the County Assessor's Office and Department of Child Support Services. SAFE Center guests may park in any visitor parking in front of the building.

From Roseville, Citrus Heights, and Orangevale:

Take I-80 West towards Sacramento to I-80 Business/ Cap City Freeway. Merge onto Hwy 50 East. Take the Power Inn Rd. exit and turn right on Howe Ave. Make a left on Ramona Ave. and turn into the parking lot on the right.

From Galt, Elk Grove, and south Sacramento:

Take Highway 99 North and take the Fruitridge Rd. exit and turn right. Make a left turn on Power Inn Rd. Make a right turn on Ramona Ave. and turn right into the parking lot.

From Land Park, Curtis Park, and downtown:

Take Highway 50 East and take the Power Inn Rd. exit and turn right on Howe Ave. Turn left on Ramona Ave. and turn right into the parking lot.

From the east (Folsom, Rancho Cordova, Rosemont):

Take Highway 50 West towards Sacramento. Take the Howe Ave. exit and turn left towards Power Inn Rd. Turn left on Ramona Ave. and turn right into the parking lot.

**** Please Note: When you arrive, please check in at the front security desk.**

Appointment Date: _____

Arrival Time:

9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. Other: _____

Sacramento County Department of Children, Family, and Adult Services

Child Protective Services

County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors

Phillip R. Serna, District 1
Patrick Kennedy, District 2
Susan Peters, District 3
Sue Frost, District 4
Don Nottoli, District 5

County Executive

Navdeep S. Gill



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ACCREDITED
MEMBER



The SAFE Center of Sacramento

3701 Power Inn Rd. Suite 3100
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 874-5009

My Child Has An Interview At The SAFE Center...

How Can I Help?



Sacramento County
Child Protective Services

What is the SAFE Center?

The **Special Assault Forensic Evaluation (SAFE) Center** was established in 1991 to assist children and dependent adults who may be victims of sexual or physical abuse, neglect, or witnesses to violent crimes, including domestic violence, homicide, and drug endangered children. The purpose of the SAFE Center is to reduce the number of interviews and decrease the number of people who will talk to your child. The SAFE Center provides a welcoming, child-friendly environment for interviews to take place. Information from the interview is shared solely with people involved in the investigation.

What happens at the SAFE Center?

After checking in with the security desk on the first floor of the building, a member of the SAFE Center team will escort you to the SAFE Center on the third floor. You will be taken to a waiting room. You will get a tour of the center by the forensic interview specialist who will later conduct the forensic interview. While your child is being interviewed, a member of our team will meet with you to discuss resources if needed.

Your child will be interviewed in one of our two interview rooms. To help children feel more comfortable, each interview room has child-sized and adult-sized furniture to meet your child's developmental needs. Both rooms have two-way mirrors, microphones, and a video camera, which is located in the corner. The makeup of the room is discussed during your tour of the center.

The entire process takes one to two hours, though it may vary from child to child.

Can I talk to my child about what happened?

No, not unless your child brings it up. In that case, listen to your child without comment. Reassure your child that he or she will be alright.



What do I tell my child about coming to the SAFE Center?

"We are going to talk to someone who needs to know what happened. This person talks to kids all the time about similar things. When you talk, it will be videotaped. This is so there is a record of what you talked about. The detective will keep the video. It will not be on TV. Only people involved in the case can see it. You need to tell the truth and tell everything you remember. You are not in trouble. We just want to make sure we understand everything that happened. I won't get to be in the room with you, but I will be right outside if you need me."

Who will my child talk to?

Your child will be interviewed by a forensic interview specialist. This is a social worker who has special training and experience in talking to children about difficult subjects.

Can I watch the interview?

No. To maintain the neutrality of the investigation, only those people who are directly involved in the investigation may watch the interview.

Is there anything I need to do prior to bringing my child to his or her interview?

Please make sure your child eats a meal prior to coming to the SAFE Center, as children who are hungry may be distracted during the interview process. If your child has any prescribed medications, please ensure they take them as prescribed prior to the interview. If your child has any special needs, please notify SAFE Center staff prior to the day of the interview.

What will happen after the interview?

You will be able to talk to the detective and ask questions after the interview. The detective will answer your questions as appropriate so long as to not jeopardize their investigation. Your child may still have to testify in court about what happened. Support services may be available to you and your child to help you through this process. Talk to a SAFE Center staff member for more information.