

Dr. Lavinia B. Masters 1301 Justin Rd. Suite 201 #5172 Lewisville, Texas 75077 October 24, 2024

\*\*Public Letter of Apology to Survivors of Sexual Trauma\*\*

Dear Survivors,

On behalf of Dr. Lavinia Masters and the entire team at Hope S.A.V.E.2S. Agency, we extend our heartfelt apology to each and every one of you who has been affected by the ongoing investigation regarding the Fort Worth Police Department's failure to process evidence related to sexual assault cases in a timely manner.

We understand the depth of your frustration, pain, and sense of betrayal. You have already endured unimaginable trauma, and the delay in processing critical evidence may feel like a re-opening of those wounds. For this, we are profoundly sorry.

You, as survivors, have shown incredible resilience and strength in coming forward. Your courage in seeking justice, in reclaiming your voice, is something that should never be undermined by systemic failings. We recognize the emotional toll this situation has taken on you, and we want you to know that we stand with you in your pursuit of justice.

Though this setback is painful, we urge you not to lose hope in the justice system. We are committed to advocating for the swift processing of your evidence, ensuring that your cases receive the attention they deserve. We encourage you to continue working with law enforcement, knowing that your voice matters, and your story is important.

Please know that you are not alone in this journey. Hope S.A.V.E.2S. Agency and other dedicated organizations are here to support you. We offer resources for legal advocacy, trauma counseling, and emotional support to help you through this difficult time. Whether you need guidance on how to move forward with your case or simply need someone to talk to, we are here for you.

We promise to continue pushing for accountability and reform to ensure that no other survivor has to endure these unnecessary delays. Your fight for justice is our fight too, and we will remain steadfast in working for systemic change.

Once again, we deeply apologize for the failings of the system, and we honor your courage and strength. Please continue to trust in your voice, and know that we will walk this path with you, advocating for your healing and justice.

With deepest respect and solidarity,

Dr. Lavinia B. Masters \*\*Dr. Lavinia Masters & Hope S.A.V.E.2S. Agency\*\*

Empowering Survivors, Advocating for Justice

## SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM RESOURCES

If you are a survivor or know of a survivor in need of professional assistance, there are resources available in the community. Here is a list of organizations that may be able to assist:

National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN)

Website: RAINN.org

Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Offers 24/7 confidential support for survivors of sexual assault.

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA)

Website: taasa.org

A resource for sexual assault survivors and advocates, offering legal support, training, and community-based programs.

Website: texasadvocacyproject.org
Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center (DARCC)

Website: dallasrapecrisis.org

Provides advocacy, counseling, and legal assistance for survivors of sexual assault in the Dallas area.

**Texas Legal Services Center** 

Website: tlsc.org

Provides pro bono legal services to victims of sexual assault, including help with protective orders and other legal matters.

## Victim Support Services - Texas Department of Public Safety

Website: dps.texas.gov

Helps crime victims access compensation for medical expenses, lost wages, and other costs related to sexual assault.

The Women's Center

Website: womenscentertc.org

Hotline: 817-927-2737

Offers hospital accompaniment for survivors of sexual assault and other violent crimes, counseling, assistance through the criminal justice process and legal services for sexual assault victims.

Safe Horizon

Website: safehorizon.org

Hotline: 1-800-621-HOPE (4673)

Offers crisis counseling, support groups, and legal assistance.

End Rape on Campus (EROC)

Website: endrapeoncampus.org

Supports survivors of sexual violence in educational institutions and offers resources for reporting incidents.

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC)

Website: victimsofcrime.org

Provides information and resources for victims of crime, including sexual assault.

**Futures Without Violence** 

Website: futureswithoutviolence.org

Offers programs and resources aimed at ending violence against women and children.

The Joyful Heart Foundation

Website: joyfulheartfoundation.org

A nonprofit organization offering support, education, and advocacy for survivors of sexual assault,