

**DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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**Montana DOJ Sexual Assault Kit Initiative
Training Report: 40-Hour Virtual Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner**

The Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) collaborated with Montana Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program Coordinators to conduct a forty-hour didactic SANE training. This was the first SANE training in Montana since 2018. In the DOJ SAKI 2020 grant application and subsequent award, DOJ identified SANE training as an important need and training objective. The SANE training preparation and curriculum development began in July 2023. The final training format included:

- 'Live' Zoom sessions with subject matter experts and presenters.
- Webinars developed by DOJ through Adobe Connect.
- Previously recorded trainings from the International Association of Forensic Nursing and Aequitas.

The training started on Friday, April 5, 2024, and occurred every Friday until May 3, 2024. The training was free to all participants. In total, forty nurses completed the training. The curriculum was aligned with the International Association of Forensic Nursing, IAFN, standards. This allowed nurses who complete the training to sit for eligibility for the IAFN certification exam.

A remote training model served as a pilot program for Montana. The priority was to identify a cost-effective, sustainable SANE training model to accommodate the vast, rural geography of Montana. With the implementation of the DOJ SAKI SANE training objective and model, rural nurses received training while minimizing long-distance travel and without leaving small hospitals short-staffed. The DOJ and Montana SANE trainers would like to continue to develop and improve this model for future SANE trainings.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2020-AK-BX-0030 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.