



## U.S. Consulate General

Chiang Mai, Thailand

### American Citizen Services

387 Wichayanon Road, T. Chang Moi

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Telephone: +66-53-107-777 (calling within Thailand)

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## CONSULAR ASSISTANCE TO U.S. CITIZEN VICTIMS OF CRIME

### If you are the victim of a crime in northern Thailand

- If you are injured, call [1669](tel:1669) for an ambulance or go to the nearest medical facility. This is a nation-wide number. Medical personnel will transport you to the nearest medical facility that has an emergency response department. You may also request to go to a specific hospital.
- Contact the Royal Thai police at [191](tel:191) or the Tourist Police at [1155](tel:1155) to report an incident and get immediate help. Request a copy of the police report.
- Contact the U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai Thailand if the incident occurred in northern Thailand. Office Tel: +66-53-107-777 or Duty Officer Number +66-81-881-1878 (after hours).
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok if the incident occurred outside of northern Thailand. Office Tel: +66-2-205-4000 (24 hours).
- To contact the Department of State in the U.S. call 1-888-407-4747 (from the U.S. or Canada) or +1 (202) 501-4444 (from overseas).

### Overseas Consular Assistance to U.S. Crime Victims

#### We can help:

- Replace a stolen passport
- Contact family, friends, or employers (with written permission from the U.S. citizen)
- Provide information on medical facilities
- Address emergency needs that arise as a result of the crime
- Explain the local criminal justice process
- Obtain information about your case
- Connect you to local and U.S.-based resources to assist victims of crime
- Obtain information about any local and U.S. victim compensation programs available
- Provide a list of local lawyers who speak English
- Accompany sexual assault victims (if they wish) during police interview and forensic collection procedures.

#### We cannot:

- Investigate crimes
- Provide legal advice or represent you in court
- Serve as official interpreters or translators
- Pay legal, medical, or other fees for you

## **LOCAL RESOURCES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSULT OR VIOLENCE**

**DISCLAIMER:** The U.S. Consulate General assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability, reputation, or the quality of services provided by the providers. Inclusion on these lists is in no way an endorsement by the Department of State or the U.S. Consulate General.

**What to expect if you are a victim of sexual assault in Thailand** - Seeking medical attention can be challenging, but is an important step to protecting your health and safety – whether or not you decide to report the assault as a crime. In Thailand, there is not a national framework for hospitals responding to sexual assault, however, many hospitals use a similar social-worker led One Stop Crisis Support Service (OCSS). These centers aim to assist with legal, social support, and medical needs.

### **Considerations when seeking support for sexual assault in Thailand**

These guidelines are based on information provided by the Bangkok Police General Hospital (PGH), which handles almost 20 per cent of sexual assault cases. These points provide an overview of what you might expect.

- For evidence from a sexual assault kit to be legally admissible in Thailand, it must be completed at a public hospital in the province where the assault occurred. The local police or the tourist police (Tel. #1155) should be able to advise where you can seek medical support. Some private hospitals may be able to provide health services for individuals who have experienced sexual assault, but this will not be admissible as evidence.
- Sexual assault kits vary but generally include swabs and slides for collecting forensic evidence and collection bags for other items, such as clothing. Practitioners will address injuries requiring treatment first, then collect evidence from the internal and external genitalia, and document any other physical evidence that may be prevalent, such as bruises. Some hospitals will not have policies requiring female patients to be seen by female doctors and nurses, however, you may be able to request this. Some hospitals do not have designated response teams for sexual assault, so processes and responses may vary.
- Where indicators are present, clinical staff or police may request additional tests, such as samples under one's fingernails or blood/urine toxicology. As these tests are generally completed at the discretion of the hospital and police, you may not receive a clear overview at admission of what tests will be completed. You may be asked to pay for these medical services.
- Medical providers may also conduct checks for sexually transmitted diseases. At many hospitals around Thailand, you will receive emergency contraception and prophylaxis treatment (to reduce the likelihood of sexually transmitted diseases). You may wish to request this if it is not automatically provided.
- While at the hospital, you may also meet with police and social workers who will ask questions and advise you about processes and support available. Unfortunately, cultural perceptions about sexual assault in Thailand still tend to place blame on the victim, and this is something you may experience during police questioning. Police questioning may also be conducted in the main police waiting room, rather than a private office. You may be asked several times to describe the incident to the police and other local authorities. If offered the opportunity to meet with a social worker, you may find this helpful as they are uniquely equipped to assist people who have experienced sexual assault.
- Simple sexual assault (i.e., involving a single perpetrator in a non-public location) is considered a “compoundable offense” under Thai law. This means the perpetrator and victim can come to a financial settlement in lieu of prosecution. Although this option is voluntary, you may find yourself under subtle pressure by police and prosecutor to reach a mutually agreeable settlement. If you decide to accept this option, consult with a local lawyer on what financial awards are generally appropriate.

**Note:** Reporting sexual assault cases in Thailand can be challenging due to cultural perceptions of sexual assault, language barriers and unclear/varied processes and procedures. That said, in some cases, arrests are made or further legal action is taken. It is your right and personal decision to choose how you proceed and what support you seek. The U.S. Embassy and Consulate can assist you with the process, provide information, and put you in touch with support services.

## **LOCAL HEALTH FACILITIES**

The U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai has compiled the list of health service providers, including mental health care providers, operating in the 15 provinces of northern Thailand that the Consulate covers. Web links to local health facilities:

[Medical Services in Northern Thailand](#) (PDF 426KB)

[Medical Services in other parts of Thailand](#) (PDF 706KB)

## **STD TESTING**

Thai Red Cross Anonymous Clinic

369-371 Wichayanon Road, T.Chang Moi, A.Muang, Chiang Mai 50300

Tel.: +66(0)53-234-669

## **ONE STOP CRISIS CENTERS (OSCC)**

One Stop Crisis Centers (OSCC) operates under the Thai Ministry of Public Health's policy to assist minor and female victims of sexual assault and violence. OSCC units are located in most major public hospitals. For Chiang Mai, OSCCs are available at Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai Hospital "Suan Dok" and Nakornping Hospital. The OSCC team of each hospital is managed by the social welfare unit, in coordination with specialists, including licensed doctors, forensic team, psychiatrist, police, etc.

OSCC services include:

- a. Taking a report from victims
- b. Providing medical assistance - Physical examination to document the assault
- c. Providing legal assistance - Assist in reporting the incident to the police, if necessary
- d. Providing social welfare assistance to the victims - Arranging temporary shelter
- e. Coordinating with relevant organizations and offices

### OSCC Maharaj Nakorn Hospital

Tel: +66-(0) 53-936-150 (ask for OSCC or social welfare unit) – Point of contact Mr. Phoomjai Burutsapat

### OSCC Nakornping Hospital

Tel: +66-(0)53-999-200 (ask for OSCC) – Point of contact Mrs. Tanyapab Chaiphoon

## LOCAL POLICE

- **Royal Thai Police in Northern Thailand**

<https://www.royalthaipolice.go.th/index.php> (website is in Thai)

<http://www.royalthaipolice.go.th/station.php> (directory of police stations in Thailand)

Tel: 191 (for emergencies)

Tel: 1599 (for general inquiries)

- **Thai Tourist Police**

<http://touristpolice.go.th/>

Tel: 1155 (National Tourist Police Call Center)

Tel: +66-53-248-130 Chiang Mai Tourist Police

- **Tourist Assistance Centers**

Chiang Mai Province Tel. +66-89-301-0400 or +66-53-281-438-9

Chiang Rai Province Tel. +66-53-793-043

Sukothai Province Tel. +66-55-610-222

[Touristcenter13@gmail.com](mailto:Touristcenter13@gmail.com)

## LOCAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

### HUG project (Non-governmental organization)

<http://www.hugproject.org>

The HUG project exists to prevent and protect children from human trafficking, exploitation, and abuse.

Representatives from this agency can walk victims through the Thai legal process and will work to ensure that victims are placed in a secure location.

## LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

As a service to U.S. citizens who need legal advice or representation, the U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai compiled this list of local law firms that have English-speaking lawyers and accept U.S. citizen clients.

[Legal Service Providers in Chiang Mai](#) (PDF 324KB)

[Legal Service Providers in Bangkok](#) (PDF 586KB)

## U.S. VICTIM ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

NOTE: The agencies and organizations listed on this international directory have not been vetted by the U.S. Department of State or other federal agency.

Some U.S. cities and communities offer programs to help residents who are victims of overseas crime, including:

- All U.S. states provide victim compensation programs. However only some states offer benefits to residents who are victims of violent crime overseas. Most compensation programs require the victim to file a report at the time of the incident, and to provide a copy with the application.

## LIST OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/emergencies/crime.html>