

To: Patient or Family Member

This letter is being provided to you because you or a family member have been placed on **Protected Status**.

What Does it Mean to Be on Protected Status?

All victims of violence who are admitted are placed under Protected Status while the hospital assesses the patient's safety risk. Therefore, anyone who calls the hospital seeking information about the Protected Status patient will be informed that the hospital does not have any information about the patient. Additionally, the hospital will not provide any information about the patient to members of the media.

Is the Protected Status Patient Allowed to Have Visitors?

Yes, but while the patient is under Protected Status, either the patient or his/her family can create a visitor list, which will be limited. The visitor list cannot be changed more than once so we request that only family members or close friends be placed on the list. Each visitor must show proper photo identification to our hospital Public Safety officer before he/she can be allowed to come up to the floor and visit the patient.

How will the Hospital Provide Medical Updates to Family Members?

To facilitate communication with all family members and allow our medical staff to focus our attention on the patient, we request that the patient and/or the family designate one family member to serve as the primary contact person who can receive updates and can communicate the updates to the other family members. If a family member has been designated to serve as the primary contact person, then our medical staff will refer calls from other family members or friends to the designated person.

How Can Protected Status be Removed?

During the patient's admission, the hospital, in collaboration with our Public Safety department who is the liaison to external law enforcement agencies, will continually assess whether it is appropriate to remove the patient from Protected Status.

Committed to providing excellent care to all our patients.