

Government of the District of Columbia  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F**  
*North Cleveland Park ▪ Forest Hills ▪ Tenleytown*

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3F03 – Mary Beth Ray  
3F04 – Sally Gresham  
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3F06 – David Solorzano Lowell, Secretary  
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**Resolution the Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Act of 2013**

WHEREAS, Councilmember Tommy Wells introduced the Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Act of 2013 (Bill 20-417), which is currently under consideration by the D.C. Council's Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, this legislation makes important improvements to D.C. law related to this topic; and

WHEREAS, the bill specifies the rights of survivors of sexual assault to have access to advocates during interviews or other interactions with hospital personnel, prosecutors, or law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the bill undercuts this right by allowing hospital personnel, certified forensic sexual assault nurse examiners, law enforcement, prosecutors, or defense attorneys determine that the presence of the advocate to be detrimental to the purpose of the interview; and

WHEREAS, the presence of these clauses undermines the purpose of creating these protections, especially the ability of defense attorneys to dictate survivors' ability to determine who is with them during interviews;

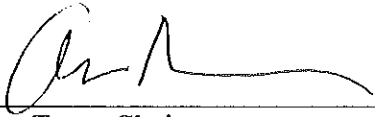
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F urges the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety to vote to move the bill to the full Council for approval and forwarding to the Mayor for signature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F urges the Committee to amend the law by deleting the following clauses of Title II, part b: "(c)(2) The hospital personnel or the certified forensic sexual assault nurse examiner determines that the sexual assault victim advocate will be detrimental to the purpose of the examination," and "(d)(2) The law enforcement official, prosecutor, or defense attorney determines that the sexual assault victim advocate will be detrimental to the purpose of the interview;" and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F urges the Committee to amend the law by deleting the following text from Title II part b (e): ", unless the law enforcement official, prosecutor, or defense attorney determines that the advocate will be detrimental to the purpose of the interview."

[Signature page follows]

ANC 3F approved this resolution at its meeting on December 17, 2013, which was properly noticed and a quorum present. The resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0-1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Tope', written over a horizontal line.

Adam Tope, Chair