



Idaho State Police

Service Since 1939



Colonel Bill Gardiner
Director

Brad Little
Governor

To: Idaho Forensic Nurses

From: Matthew Gamette, ISP Forensic Services Laboratory System Director

Subject: IAFN SANE-A Certification

Date: December 23, 2025

Idaho State Police Forensic Services (ISPFS) has been engaged in forensic nursing and forensic science nurse education since 2019. We have relied on the International Association of Forensic Nursing (IAFN) to accredit our training classes and certify our nurses. While ISPFS has relied on IAFN as a service provider for certification and accreditation, ISPFS has no involvement in IAFN management, operation, or leadership decisions. IAFN is currently undergoing a radical restructure that has involved reduction of staff and suspension of many of their services. As reported in a recent news release by IAFN, these reductions were reportedly the result of fraud committed by a former employee that is now under federal investigation. ISPFS is carefully monitoring the changes at IAFN and how they may impact our work in the state of Idaho. We have attached a Frequently Asked Question document published recently by IAFN that addresses the actions and reorganization.

ISPFS assures our stakeholders that we remain committed and dedicated to high quality forensic nurse education, training, and mentorship. We also remain committed to the practice of forensic nursing in Idaho. We continuously and constantly evaluate the forensic nursing education and training being provided to ensure it meets the highest national and international standards. Although accreditation is not required in Idaho for the 40-hour Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)-A (adult/adolescent) class taught by ISPFS, our class remains accredited and will continue to be offered to Idaho medical providers.

IAFN's suspension of the SANE-A and SANE-P (pediatric) certification and recertification has raised many concerns in the forensic science community. While certification demonstrates the highest level of training, proficiency, and experience with patient care, certification is not a requirement in Idaho to provide forensic medical care or forensic services. Providers that are currently certified will remain certified through IAFN. ISPFS will continue to monitor the current situation with IAFN and evaluate options through IAFN or other forensic nursing or nursing organizations for certification in these vital services. We are aware that the Forensic Nursing Certification Board (FNCB) is in the process of finalizing pathways for supporting currently certified SANEs and those who have completed the required training and want to be certified. ISPFS will provide more information as it becomes available.

These actions taken recently by IAFN do not deter us in Idaho from pursuing forensic nursing excellence for the compassionate care for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. As we have for the last six years, ISPFS will continue to support and strengthen forensic medical care and evidence collection and documentation for survivors of these horrific crimes. There are now over 35 exam sites in Idaho, with 10 hospitals (or freestanding emergency departments) where forensic exams are being performed. Since 2017, ISPFS has trained nearly three hundred (300) sexual assault nurse examiners in Idaho and helped facilitate the addition of over twenty-nine (29) locations in rural Idaho. This work will further accelerate in 2026.

Any questions or concerns about the ISPFS forensic nursing program should be addressed to the SANE/SART Coordinators at forensic.nursing@isp.idaho.gov. Questions about the ISPFS Laboratory System should be addressed to me at matthew.gamette@isp.idaho.gov or 208-884-7217.

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