

S. JOSEPH SIMITIAN

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, EAST WING
70 WEST HEDDING STREET, 10TH FLOOR
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95110
TEL: (408) 299-5050 or (650) 965-8737 FAX: (408) 280-0418
supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org • www.supervisorsimitian.com



October 29, 2018

Marc Tessier-Lavigne
President, Stanford University
Office of the President, Building 10
Stanford, CA 94305-2061

President Tessier-Lavigne:

I was pleased to learn that Stanford University has extended an offer to accommodate Sexual Assault Forensic Exams at the Vaden Health Center on campus.

There has, however, been widespread concern that a pilot clinic at Vaden might only serve residents whose assault occurred in a location that was under the jurisdiction of the Stanford Department of Public Safety. As I'm sure you can understand, it would be inappropriate for the County to offer services that are exclusive to certain members of the community.

It is my understanding that the main reason for the pilot only serving those under Stanford DPS jurisdiction is because those officers will be responsible for providing access to the facility. In order to ensure that all residents of North County can access a nearby Sexual Assault Forensic Exam, I'm hoping you could simply direct Stanford DPS to implement agreements with other local law enforcement agencies – including the Palo Alto Police Department, the Mountain View Police Department, the Los Altos Police Department, the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety, and the Santa Clara County Sheriff – that provide them access to the clinic when they need to bring in a victim for an exam.

Marc Tessier-Lavigne
October 29, 2018
Page 2

I understand, of course, that the placement of these services at Vaden is a pilot only. It is likely not the ideal long-term location for these exams. We are still pursuing alternative long-term sites, and look forward to working with you in that effort. If you have other thoughts regarding an alternative location, that would certainly be helpful. In the meantime, I want to be sure that all County residents can benefit from this service being offered closer to home.

Please don't hesitate to contact my office with questions. I look forward to working together to identify a location that works for all community members in need of these critical services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Joseph Simitian". The signature is stylized with a large initial "S" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

S. Joseph Simitian
President, Board of Supervisors