

Forensic Nursing - Excellence



Tess Carstensen

Albany, New York

Work Setting: To provide services to patients who present to the emergency department after a sexual assault, for both adults and pediatrics.

Tess Carstensen personifies what it means to be a sexual assault nurse examiner. Having worked with her on multiple cases, she provides our patient's with comfort and reassures them during the exam. She explains each step and answers all of their questions completely.

On multiple occasions she has come in to the department for a case in the middle of the night when she is not on call. Even at 3 am, she arrives with a smile, knowing that she is providing an invaluable resource to a person in crisis.

On what is most likely the worst day of their lives, Tess' confidence, accessible demeanor and empathy puts our patients at ease.

Through her guidance, they can both begin their recovery and aid in prosecuting their attacker. Additionally, she is a vocal proponent of her specialty and readily engages other nurses who show an interest in her work. I am proud to work with Tess and think that she is a truly outstanding provider.