

## Silent Supporter Guidelines

As our conduct resolution process is not a courtroom proceeding, but rather is part of the institution's programs designed to provide an appropriate living/learning environment for all members of our community, the role of a Silent Supporter is limited. Silent Supporters provide emotional support to the student who has requested their presence in a manner that does not disturb the proceedings.

*If you are the student's legal counsel*, please be aware that the student must notify the university of your planned presence at least three working days in advance of the proceeding.

The following guidelines apply to Silent Supporters:

- In formal proceedings, the Silent Supporter is permitted to observe the proceedings but is not seated at the Panel table.
- The Silent Supporter cannot possess electronic devices such as cell phones or recorders. Formal proceedings are recorded by the university, and this recording can be provided to the student upon request.
- Silent Supporters cannot pass notes or otherwise communicate with the student. You can speak with the student during any breaks in the proceeding.
  - If the student wants active assistance in the process, we encourage them to request the service of a [Conduct and Honor Advisor \(CHAP\)](#).
- Because the Silent Supporter is present for the entire proceeding, a Silent Supporter cannot also serve as a participating witness in the process. If the student wishes to ask you to participate as a witness, we encourage the student to have another person serve as their Silent Supporter.

Please feel free to contact us at [sarp@wm.edu](mailto:sarp@wm.edu) or 757-221-2509 if you have any questions.