



Opportunities For Learning
Public Charter Schools

EMS

Statement of Mandated Reporter

(Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Law -- P.C.11166.5)

California law requires that the Company obtain from certain employees a signed statement regarding their knowledge of **mandated child abuse reporting** requirement. As an employee of the Company, you have been identified as a legally **mandated reporter** within the meaning of the State of California statute provisions of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Law.

Child abuse must be reported by a legally **mandated reporter** who “has knowledge of, or observes a child in his or her professional capacity, or within the scope of his or her employment, whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of **child abuse or neglect**” (P.C.11166(a)).

You must make a report immediately (or as soon as practically possible) by phone to a Child Protective Services agency (Child Welfare/Child Protective Services if the abuse is occurring within the family or home or Law Enforcement if the suspected abuser is someone outside the family) to make a verbal report. **If the child is in imminent danger, call 911.**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY	ORANGE COUNTY	KERN COUNTY
Director, LA County CWS Agency	Director, Orange County CWS Agency	Director, Kern County CWS Agency
425 Shatto Place Los Angeles, CA 90020	888 North Main Street Santa Ana, CA 92701	PO Box 511 Bakersfield, CA 93302
800-540-4000 In-State 213-639-4500 Out of State FAX: 213-639-1321	714-940-1000 800-207-4464 FAX: 714-938-0289	661-631-6011 Days 661-633-7227 voicemail FAX: 661-631-6568
www.lacounty.info	www.oc.ca.gov	www.co.kern.ca.us

Within **36 hours** of reporting an incident, a written report of the suspected incident(s) must be completed on Department of Justice form SS 8572 (available on the EMS Teacher Weblink, as well as http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf), and forwarded to;

California Department of Justice
Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information
P.O.Box 90317
Sacramento, CA 94203-4170

Individual Responsibility: Any individual whose occupation is named in the **reporting** law must report **abuse**. If the individual confers with a superior and a decision is made that the superior file the report, one report is sufficient. However, if the superior disagrees, the individual with the original suspicion must report.

Reasonable Suspicion: Means "that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect."

Anonymous Reporting: Mandated reporters are required to give their names. **Non-mandated** reporters may report anonymously. **Child** protective agencies are required to keep the **mandated** reporter's name confidential unless a court orders the information disclosed.

Immunity: Any legally **mandated** reporter has immunity when making a report. In the event a civil suit is filed against the reporter, reimbursement for fees incurred in the suit will occur up to \$50,000 (P.C. Section 11172). No individual can be dismissed, disciplined or harassed for making a report of suspected **child abuse**.

Liability: Any person who fails to report an instance of **child abuse** or neglect which he or she knows to exist or reasonably should know to exist, as required, is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by confinement in the county jail for a term not to exceed six months or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by both.

Notification Regarding Abuse: You are not legally required to notify the parents that you are making a report; however, it is often beneficial to let the parents know you are **reporting** for benefit of a future relationship.