



CDSS

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DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

May 04, 2015

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 15-33

REASON FOR THIS
TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS)
PROGRAM MANAGERS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 40, NEW
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR SUSPECTED ELDER AND
DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE, REVISED REPORTING FORM
SOC 341, AND REVISED ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM SOC
341A

REFERENCE: AB 40 (CHAPTER 659, STATUTES OF 2012);
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTIONS 15630,
15631, AND 15610.67; ACL 06-59, DATED DECEMBER 19, 2006

The purpose of this ACL is to provide instructions for the implementation of AB 40, which adds requirements for the reporting of elder and dependent adult abuse. AB 40 amended Sections 15630 and 15631 of, and added Section 15610.67 to, the WIC. This ACL also transmits to counties and mandated reporters the revised forms SOC 341, "Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse" and SOC 341A, "Statement Acknowledging Requirement to Report Suspected Abuse of Dependent Adults and Elders." The provisions of AB 40 necessitated revisions to these forms.

AB 40 REQUIREMENTS

AB 40 requires that, if suspected or alleged physical abuse against an elder or dependent adult that occurs in a Long-Term Care (LTC) facility, except a state mental health hospital or a state developmental center, results in serious bodily injury, as defined therein, a mandated reporter shall make a telephone report to the local law enforcement agency, immediately, and no later than within two hours of the reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse. AB 40 further requires that a written report be made to the local LTC Ombudsman Program (LTCOP), the corresponding licensing agency, **and** the local law enforcement agency within two hours of the mandated reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse.

If the suspected abuse that occurs in a LTC facility does not result in serious bodily injury, AB 40 requires that, the mandated reporter make a telephone report to the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of the reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse. A written report shall then be made to the LTCOP, the corresponding licensing agency, and the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of the mandated reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse.

If the suspected abuse occurs in a state mental health hospital or a state developmental center, AB 40 authorizes the report of abuse to be made to the designated investigator of the California Department of State Hospitals, the California Department of Developmental Services, or the local law enforcement agency. This bill deletes the local ombudsman from the list of persons to whom a mandated reporter may report under these circumstances.

Under AB 40, a person who is not a mandated reporter may report suspected or alleged abuse that occurred in a LTC facility to both the LTCOP and the local law enforcement agency.

SOC 341

The provisions of AB 40 necessitated changes to the SOC 341, "Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse". This form documents the information given by the reporting party if there is an incident of suspected or alleged elder or dependent adult abuse.

CDSS Adult Programs Division modified this form in consultation with members of the California Counties Protective Services Operations Committee, a subcommittee of the California Welfare Department Association Adult Services Committee, Community Care Licensing, and the LTCOP.

SOC 341A

The SOC 341A, "Statement Acknowledging Requirement to Report Suspected Abuse of Dependent Adults and Elders," is a form completed by mandated reporters in licensed facilities.

Availability of SOC 341 and SOC 341A Forms

Counties are advised that the revised SOC 341 and SOC 341A shall be used effective immediately. The English versions of the forms are available at:

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/agedblinddisabled/PG1808.htm>

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Questions about accessing the form may be directed to the Forms Management Unit at fmudss@dss.ca.gov.

Questions regarding this ACL or the use of forms SOC 341 or SOC 341A, should be directed to the Policy and Operations Bureau at (916) 651-5350.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

EILEEN CARROLL
Deputy Director
Adult Programs Division

Attachments

c: CWDA

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT - NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

REPORT OF SUSPECTED DEPENDENT ADULT/ELDER ABUSE

DATE COMPLETED _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY REPORTING PARTY. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. SEE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

A. VICTIM Check box if victim consents to disclosure of information (Ombudsman use only - WIC 15636(a))

NAME (LAST NAME, FIRST NAME)		AGE	DATE OF BIRTH
SSN	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	ETHNICITY	LANGUAGE (✓ CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> NON-VERBAL <input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
ADDRESS (IF FACILITY, INCLUDE NAME AND NOTIFY OMBUDSMAN)		CITY	ZIP CODE
PRESENT LOCATION (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)		CITY	ZIP CODE
<input type="checkbox"/> ELDERLY (65+) <input type="checkbox"/> DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED <input type="checkbox"/> MENTALLY ILL/DISABLED <input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICALLY DISABLED <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN/OTHER		<input type="checkbox"/> LIVES ALONE <input type="checkbox"/> LIVES WITH OTHERS	

B. SUSPECTED ABUSER Check if Self-Neglect

NAME OF SUSPECTED ABUSER			
ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP CODE
<input type="checkbox"/> CARE CUSTODIAN (type) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH PRACTITIONER (type) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> PARENT <input type="checkbox"/> SON/DAUGHTER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> SPOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER RELATION _____	
GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	ETHNICITY	AGE	D.O.B.
HEIGHT		WEIGHT	EYES
HAIR			

C. REPORTING PARTY Check appropriate box if reporting party waives confidentiality to: All All but victim All but perpetrator

NAME	SIGNATURE	OCCUPATION	AGENCY/NAME OF BUSINESS
RELATION TO VICTIM/HOW ABUSE IS KNOWN	STREET	CITY	ZIP CODE
E-MAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE ()		

D. INCIDENT INFORMATION - Address where incident occurred

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT(S)	PLACE OF INCIDENT (✓ CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> OWN HOME <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY CARE FACILITY <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL/ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL <input type="checkbox"/> HOME OF ANOTHER <input type="checkbox"/> NURSING FACILITY/SWING BED <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)
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E. REPORTED TYPES OF ABUSE (✓ CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

1. PERPETRATED BY OTHERS (WIC 15610.07 & 15610.63)		
a. <input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL (e.g. assault/battery, constraint or deprivation, chemical restraint, over/under medication)	b. <input type="checkbox"/> SEXUAL	c. <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCIAL
d. <input type="checkbox"/> NEGLECT (including Deprivation of Goods and Services by a Care Custodian)	e. <input type="checkbox"/> ABANDONMENT	f. <input type="checkbox"/> ISOLATION
	g. <input type="checkbox"/> ABDUCTION	h. <input type="checkbox"/> PSYCHOLOGICAL/MENTAL
	i. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____	
2. SELF-NEGLECT (WIC 15610.57(b)(5))		
a. <input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL CARE (e.g. personal hygiene, food, clothing, shelter)	d. <input type="checkbox"/> MALNUTRITION/DEHYDRATION	
b. <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL CARE (e.g. physical and mental health needs)	e. <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCIAL SELF-NEGLECT (e.g. inability to manage one's own personal finances)	
c. <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH and SAFETY HAZARDS (e.g. risk of suicide, unsafe environment)	f. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____	

ABUSE RESULTED IN (✓ CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

<input type="checkbox"/> NO PHYSICAL INJURY	<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR MEDICAL CARE	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALIZATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CARE PROVIDER REQUIRED
<input type="checkbox"/> DEATH	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL SUFFERING	<input type="checkbox"/> SERIOUS BODILY INJURY*	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN			

F. REPORTER'S OBSERVATIONS, BELIEFS, AND STATEMENTS BY VICTIM IF AVAILABLE. DOES ALLEGED PERPETRATOR STILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE VICTIM? DOES THE ALLEGATION INVOLVE A SERIOUS BODILY INJURY (see definition in section "Reporting Responsibilities and Time Frames" within the General Instructions)? PROVIDE ANY KNOWN TIME FRAME (2 days, 1 week, ongoing, etc.). LIST ANY POTENTIAL DANGER FOR INVESTIGATOR (animals, weapons, communicable diseases, etc.).

CHECK IF MEDICAL, FINANCIAL (ACCOUNT INFORMATION, ETC.), PHOTOGRAPHS, OR OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION IS ATTACHED.

G. OTHER PERSON BELIEVED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF ABUSE (family, significant others, neighbors, medical providers, agencies involved, etc.)

NAME	RELATIONSHIP
ADDRESS	TELEPHONE ()

H. FAMILY MEMBER OR OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR VICTIM'S CARE (If unknown, list contact person)

NAME	IF CONTACT PERSON ONLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/>	RELATIONSHIP
ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE
		TELEPHONE ()

I. TELEPHONE REPORT MADE TO APS Law Enforcement Local Ombudsman Calif. Dept. of State Hospitals
 Calif. Dept. of Developmental Services

NAME OF OFFICIAL CONTACTED BY PHONE	TELEPHONE ()	DATE/TIME
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J. WRITTEN REPORT Enter information about the agencies receiving this report. If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility and resulted in Serious Bodily Injury*, please refer to "Reporting Responsibilities and Time Frames" in the General Instructions. Do not submit report to California Department of Social Services Adult Programs Division.

AGENCY NAME	ADDRESS OR FAX	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Mailed	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Faxed
AGENCY NAME	ADDRESS OR FAX	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Mailed	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Faxed
AGENCY NAME	ADDRESS OR FAX	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Mailed	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Faxed

K. RECEIVING AGENCY USE ONLY Telephone Report Written Report

1. Report Received by	Date/Time
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2. Assigned Immediate Response Ten-Day Response No Initial Response (NIR)
 Not APS Not Ombudsman No Ten-Day (NTD)

Approved by _____ Assigned to (optional) _____

3. Cross-Reported to CDPH-Licensing & Cert.; CDSS-CCL; Local Ombudsman; Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud & Elder Abuse;
 Calif. Dept. of State Hospitals; Law Enforcement; Professional Licensing Board;
 Calif. Dept. of Developmental Services; APS;
 Other (Specify) _____ Date of Cross-Report _____

4. APS/Ombudsman/Law Enforcement Case File Number _____

REPORT OF SUSPECTED DEPENDENT ADULT/ELDER ABUSE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE OF FORM

This form, as adopted by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), is required under Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 15630 and 15658(a)(1). This form documents the information given by the reporting party on the suspected incident of abuse or neglect of an elder or dependent adult. **Abuse** means any treatment with resulting physical harm, pain, or mental suffering or the deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering. **Neglect** means the negligent failure of an elder or dependent adult or of any person having the care or custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of self-care or care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise. **Elder** means any person residing in this state who is 65 years of age or older (WIC Section 15610.27). **Dependent Adult** means any person residing in this state, between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age (WIC Section 15610.23). Dependent adult includes any person between the ages of 18 and 64 who is admitted as an inpatient to a 24-hour health facility (defined in the Health and Safety Code Sections 1250, 1250.2, and 1250.3).

COMPLETION OF THE FORM

1. This form may be used by the receiving agency to record information through a telephone report of suspected dependent adult/elder abuse.
2. If any item of information is unknown, enter "unknown."
3. Item A: Check box to indicate if the victim waives confidentiality.
4. Item C: Check box if the reporting party waives confidentiality. Please note that mandated reporters are required to disclose their names, however, non-mandated reporters may report anonymously.

REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIME FRAMES:

Any mandated reporter, who in his or her professional capacity, or within the scope of his or her employment, has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be abuse or neglect, or is told by an elder or dependent adult that he or she has experienced behavior constituting abuse or neglect, or reasonably suspects that abuse or neglect has occurred, shall complete this form for each report of known or suspected instance of abuse (physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse, abduction, neglect (self-neglect), isolation, and abandonment) involving an elder or dependent adult.

***Serious bodily injury** means an injury involving extreme physical pain, substantial risk of death, or protracted loss or impairment of function of a bodily member, organ or of mental faculty, or requiring medical intervention, including, but not limited to, hospitalization, surgery, or physical rehabilitation (WIC Section 15610.67).

Reporting shall be completed as follows:

- If the abuse occurred in a Long-Term Care (LTC) facility (as defined in WIC Section 15610.47) and resulted in serious bodily injury, report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency immediately and no later than two (2) hours after observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse. Send the written report to the local law enforcement agency, the local Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP), and the appropriate licensing agency (for long-term health care facilities, the California Department of Public Health; for community care facilities, the California Department of Social Services) within two (2) hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, was physical abuse, but did not result in serious bodily injury, report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse. Send the written report to the local law enforcement agency, the local LTCOP, and the appropriate licensing agency (for long-term health care facilities, the California Department of Public Health; for community care facilities, the California Department of Social Services) within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, was physical abuse, did not result in serious bodily injury, and was perpetrated by a resident with a physician's diagnosis of dementia, report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency or the local LTCOP, immediately or as soon as practicably possible. Follow by sending the written report to the LTCOP or the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, was abuse other than physical abuse, report by telephone to the LTCOP or the law enforcement agency immediately or as soon as practicably possible. Follow by sending the written report to the local law enforcement agency or the LTCOP within two working days.

- If the abuse occurred in a state mental hospital or a state developmental center, mandated reporters shall report by telephone or through a confidential Internet reporting tool (established in WIC Section 15658) immediately or as soon as practicably possible and submit the report within two (2) working days of making the telephone report to the responsible agency as identified below:
 - If the abuse occurred in a State Mental Hospital, report to the local law enforcement agency or the California Department of State Hospitals.
 - If the abuse occurred in a State Developmental Center, report to the local law enforcement agency or to the California Department of Developmental Services.
- For all other abuse, mandated reporters shall report by telephone or through a confidential Internet reporting tool to the adult protective services agency or the local law enforcement agency immediately or as soon as practicably possible. If reported by telephone, a written or an Internet report shall be sent to adult protective services or law enforcement within two working days.

REPORTING PARTY DEFINITIONS

Mandated Reporter (WIC Section 15630 (a)) Any person who has assumed full or intermittent responsibility for care or custody of an elder or dependent adult, whether or not that person receives compensation, including administrators, supervisors, and any licensed staff of a public or private facility that provides care or services for elder or dependent adults, or any elder or dependent adult care custodian, health practitioner, clergy member, or employee of a county adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency, is a mandated reporter.

Care Custodian (WIC Section 15610.17) means an administrator or an employee of any of the following public or private facilities or agencies, or persons providing care or services for elders or dependent adults, including members of the support staff and maintenance staff: (a) Twenty-four hour health facilities, as defined in Sections 1250, 1250.2, and 1250.3 of the Health and Safety Code; (b) Clinics; (c) Home health agencies; (d) Agencies providing publicly funded in-home supportive services, nutrition services, or other home and community-based support services; (e) Adult day health care centers and adult day care; (f) Secondary schools that serve 18- to 22-year-old dependent adults and postsecondary educational institutions that serve dependent adults or elders; (g) Independent living centers; (h) Camps; (i) Alzheimer's Disease Day Care Resource Centers; (j) Community care facilities, as defined in Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code, and residential care facilities for the elderly, as defined in Section 1569.2 of the Health and Safety Code; (k) Respite care facilities; (l) Foster homes; (m) Vocational rehabilitation facilities and work activity centers; (n) Designated area agencies on aging; (o) Regional centers for persons with developmental disabilities; (p) State Department of Social Services and State Department of Health Services licensing divisions; (q) County welfare departments; (r) Offices of patients' rights advocates and clients' rights advocates, including attorneys; (s) The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman; (t) Offices of public conservators, public guardians, and court investigators; (u) Any protection or advocacy agency or entity that is designated by the Governor to fulfill the requirements and assurances of the following: (1) The federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, contained in Chapter 144 (commencing with Section 15001) of Title 42 of the United States Code, for protection and advocacy of the rights of persons with developmental disabilities; or (2) The Protection and Advocacy for the Mentally Ill Individuals Act of 1986, as amended, contained in Chapter 114 (commencing with Section 10801) of Title 42 of the United States Code, for the protection and advocacy of the rights of persons with mental illness; (v) Humane societies and animal control agencies; (w) Fire departments; (x) Offices of environmental health and building code enforcement; or (y) Any other protective, public, sectarian, mental health, or private assistance or advocacy agency or person providing health services or social services to elders or dependent adults.

Health Practitioner (WIC Section 15610.37) means a physician and surgeon, psychiatrist, psychologist, dentist, resident, intern, podiatrist, chiropractor, licensed nurse, dental hygienist, licensed clinical social worker or associate clinical social worker, marriage, family, and child counselor, or any other person who is currently licensed under Division 2 (commencing with Section 500) of the Business and Professions Code, any emergency medical technician I or II, paramedic, or person certified pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code, a psychological assistant registered pursuant to Section 2913 of the Business and Professions Code, a marriage, family, and child counselor trainee, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 4980.03 of the Business and Professions Code, or an unlicensed marriage, family, and child counselor intern registered under Section 4980.44 of the Business and Professions Code, state or county public health or social service employee who treats an elder or a dependent adult for any condition, or a coroner.

Any officer and/or employee of a financial institution is a mandated reporter of suspected financial abuse and shall report suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult on form SOC 342, "Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Financial Abuse".

MULTIPLE REPORTERS

When two or more mandated reporters are jointly knowledgeable of a suspected instance of abuse of a dependent adult or elder, and when there is agreement among them, the telephone report may be made by one member of the group. Also, a single written report may be completed by that member of the group. Any person of that group, who believes the report was not submitted, shall submit the report.

IDENTITY OF THE REPORTER

The identity of all persons who report under WIC Chapter 11 shall be confidential and disclosed only among APS agencies, local law enforcement agencies, LTCOPs, California State Attorney General Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse, licensing agencies or their counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs Investigators (who investigate elder and dependent adult abuse), the county District Attorney, the Probate Court, and the Public Guardian. Confidentiality may be waived by the reporter or by court order.

FAILURE TO REPORT

Failure to report by mandated reporters (as defined under "Reporting Party Definitions") any suspected incidents of physical abuse (including sexual abuse), abandonment, isolation, financial abuse, abduction, or neglect (including self-neglect) of an elder or a dependent adult is a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than six months in the county jail, or by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by both imprisonment and fine. Any mandated reporter who willfully fails to report abuse of an elder or a dependent adult, where the abuse results in death or great bodily injury, may be punished by up to one year in the county jail, or by a fine of up to \$5,000, or by both imprisonment and fine (WIC Section 15630(h)).

Officers or employees of financial institutions are mandated reporters of financial abuse (effective January 1, 2007). These mandated reporters who fail to report financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult are subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$1,000. Individuals who willfully fail to report financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult are subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$5,000. These civil penalties shall be paid by the financial institution, which is the employer of the mandated reporter, to the party bringing the action.

EXCEPTIONS TO REPORTING

Per WIC Section 15630(b)(3)(A), a mandated reporter who is a physician and surgeon, a registered nurse, or a psychotherapist, as defined in Section 1010 of the Evidence Code, shall not be required to report a suspected incident of abuse where all of the following conditions exist:

- (1) The mandated reporter has been told by an elder or a dependent adult that he or she has experienced behavior constituting physical abuse (including sexual abuse), abandonment, isolation, financial abuse, abduction, or neglect (including self-neglect).
- (2) The mandated reporter is not aware of any independent evidence that corroborates the statement that the abuse has occurred.
- (3) The elder or the dependent adult has been diagnosed with a mental illness or dementia, or is the subject of a court-ordered conservatorship because of a mental illness or dementia.
- (4) In the exercise of clinical judgment, the physician and surgeon, the registered nurse, or the psychotherapist, as defined in Section 1010 of the Evidence Code, reasonably believes that the abuse did not occur.

DISTRIBUTION OF SOC 341 COPIES

Mandated reporter: After making the telephone report to the appropriate agency or agencies, the reporter shall send the written report to the designated agencies (as defined under "Reporting Responsibilities and Time Frames"); and keep one copy for the reporter's file.

Receiving agency: Place the original copy in the case file. Send a copy to a cross-reporting agency, if applicable.

DO NOT SEND A COPY TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADULT PROGRAMS DIVISION.

STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGING REQUIREMENT TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE OF DEPENDENT ADULTS AND ELDERS

NOTE: RETAIN IN EMPLOYEE/ VOLUNTEER FILE

NAME

POSITION

FACILITY

California law REQUIRES certain persons to report known or suspected abuse of dependent adults or elders. As an employee or volunteer at a licensed facility, you are one of those persons - a "mandated reporter."

PERSONS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT ABUSE

Mandated reporters include care custodians and any person who has assumed full or intermittent responsibility for care or custody of an elder or dependent adult, whether or not paid for that responsibility (Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 15630(a)). **Care custodian** means an administrator or an employee of most public or private facilities or agencies, or persons providing care or services for elders or dependent adults, including members of the support staff and maintenance staff (WIC Section 15610.17).

PERSONS WHO ARE THE SUBJECT OF THE REPORT

Elder means any person residing in this state who is 65 years of age or older (WIC Section 15610.27). **Dependent Adult** means any person residing in this state, between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age and those admitted as inpatients in 24-hour health facilities (WIC Section 15610.23).

REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIME FRAMES

Any mandated reporter, who in his or her professional capacity, or within the scope of his or her employment, has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be abuse or neglect, or is told by an elder or dependent adult that he or she has experienced behavior constituting abuse or neglect, or reasonably suspects that abuse or neglect occurred, shall complete form SOC 341, "Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse" for each report of known or suspected instance of abuse (physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse, abduction, neglect (self-neglect), isolation, and abandonment) involving an elder or dependent adult.

Reporting shall be completed as follows:

- If the abuse occurred in a Long-Term Care (LTC) facility (as defined in WIC Section 15610.47) and resulted in serious bodily injury (as defined in WIC Section 15610.67), report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency immediately and no later than two (2) hours after observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse. Send the written report to the local law enforcement agency, the local Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP), and the appropriate licensing agency (for long-term health care facilities, the California Department of Public Health; for community care facilities, the California Department of Social Services) within two (2) hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, was physical abuse, but did not result in serious bodily injury, report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse. Send the written report to the local law enforcement agency, the local LTCOP, and the appropriate licensing agency (for long-term health care facilities, the California Department of Public Health; for community care facilities, the California Department of Social Services) within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, was physical abuse, did not result in serious bodily injury, and was perpetrated by a resident with a physician's diagnosis of dementia, report by telephone to the local law enforcement agency or the local LTCOP, immediately or as soon as practicably possible. Follow by sending the written report to the LTCOP or the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting physical abuse.
- If the abuse occurred in a LTC facility, and was abuse other than physical abuse, report by telephone to the LTCOP or the law enforcement agency immediately or as soon as practicably possible. Follow by sending the written report to the local law enforcement agency or the LTCOP within two working days.

- If the abuse occurred in a state mental hospital or a state developmental center, mandated reporters shall report by telephone or through a confidential internet reporting tool (established in WIC Section 15658) immediately or as soon as practicably possible and submit the report within two (2) working days of making the telephone report to the responsible agency as identified below:
 - If the abuse occurred in a State Mental Hospital, report to the local law enforcement agency or the California Department of State Hospitals.
 - If the abuse occurred in a State Developmental Center, report to the local law enforcement agency or to the California Department of Developmental Services.
- For all other abuse, mandated reporters shall report by telephone or through a confidential internet reporting tool to the adult protective services agency or the local law enforcement agency immediately or as soon as practicably possible. If reported by telephone, a written or an Internet report shall be sent to adult protective services or law enforcement within two working days.

PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT ABUSE

Failure to report abuse of an elder or dependent adult is a MISDEMEANOR CRIME, punishable by jail time, fine or both (WIC Section 15630(h)). The reporting duties are individual, and no supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit the reporting duties, and no person making the report shall be subject to any sanction for making the report (WIC Section 15630(f)).

CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTER AND OF ABUSE REPORTS

The identity of all persons who report under WIC Chapter 11 shall be confidential and disclosed only among APS agencies, local law enforcement agencies, LTCOPs, California State Attorney General Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse, licensing agencies or their counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs Investigators (who investigate elder and dependent adult abuse), the county District Attorney, the Probate Court, and the Public Guardian. Confidentiality may be waived by the reporter or by court order. Any violation of confidentiality is a misdemeanor punishable by jail time, fine, or both (WIC Section 15633(a)).

DEFINITIONS OF ABUSE

Physical abuse means any of the following: (a) Assault, as defined in Section 240 of the Penal Code; (b) Battery, as defined in Section 242 of the Penal Code; (c) Assault with a deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury, as defined in Section 245 of the Penal Code; (d) Unreasonable physical constraint, or prolonged or continual deprivation of food or water; (e) Sexual assault, that means any of the following: (1) Sexual battery, as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code; (2) Rape, as defined in Section 261 of the Penal Code; (3) Rape in concert, as described in Section 264.1 of the Penal Code; (4) Spousal rape, as defined in Section 262 of the Penal Code; (5) Incest, as defined in Section 285 of the Penal Code; (6) Sodomy, as defined in Section 286 of the Penal Code; (7) Oral copulation, as defined in Section 288a of the Penal Code; (8) Sexual penetration, as defined in Section 289 of the Penal Code; or (9) Lewd or lascivious acts as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 288 of the Penal Code; or (f) Use of a physical or chemical restraint or psychotropic medication under any of the following conditions: (1) For punishment; (2) For a period beyond that for which the medication was ordered pursuant to the instructions of a physician and surgeon licensed in the State of California, who is providing medical care to the elder or dependent adult at the time the instructions are given; or (3) For any purpose not authorized by the physician and surgeon (WIC Section 15610.63).

Serious bodily injury means an injury involving extreme physical pain, substantial risk of death, or protracted loss or impairment of function of a bodily member, organ, or of mental faculty, or requiring medical intervention, including, but not limited to, hospitalization, surgery, or physical rehabilitation (WIC Section 15610.67).

Neglect (a) means either of the following: (1) The negligent failure of any person having the care or custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise; or (2) The negligent failure of an elder or dependent adult to exercise that degree of self care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise. (b) Neglect includes, but is not limited to, all of the following: (1) Failure to assist in personal hygiene, or in the provision of food, clothing, or shelter; (2) Failure to provide medical care for physical and mental health needs. No person shall be deemed neglected or abused for the sole reason that he or she voluntarily relies on treatment by spiritual means through prayer alone in lieu of medical treatment; (3) Failure to protect from health and safety hazards; (4) Failure to prevent malnutrition or dehydration; or (5) Failure of an elder or dependent adult to satisfy the needs specified in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, for himself or herself as a result of poor cognitive functioning, mental limitation, substance abuse, or chronic poor health (WIC Section 15610.57).

Financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult occurs when a person or entity does any of the following: (1) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both; (2) Assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both; or (3) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains, or assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining, real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult by undue influence, as defined in Section 15610.70 (WIC Section 15610.30(a)).

Abandonment means the desertion or willful forsaking of an elder or a dependent adult by anyone having care or custody of that person under circumstances in which a reasonable person would continue to provide care and custody (WIC Section 15610.05).

Isolation means any of the following: (1) Acts intentionally committed for the purpose of preventing, and that do serve to prevent, an elder or dependent adult from receiving his or her mail or telephone calls; (2) Telling a caller or prospective visitor that an elder or dependent adult is not present, or does not wish to talk with the caller, or does not wish to meet with the visitor where the statement is false, is contrary to the express wishes of the elder or the dependent adult, whether he or she is competent or not, and is made for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from having contact with family, friends, or concerned persons; (3) False imprisonment, as defined in Section 236 of the Penal Code; or (4) Physical restraint of an elder or dependent adult, for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from meeting with visitors (WIC Section 15610.43).

Abduction means the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, of any elder or dependent adult who does not have the capacity to consent to the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, as well as the removal from this state or the restraint from returning to this state, of any conservatee without the consent of the conservator or the court (WIC Section 15610.06).

AS AN EMPLOYEE OR VOLUNTEER OF THIS FACILITY, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE DEPENDENT ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE REQUIREMENTS, AS STATED ABOVE. IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PENALTY. IF YOU ARE A LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, WHICH PROHIBIT YOU FROM DISCLOSING THE IDENTITIES OF LONG-TERM RESIDENTS AND COMPLAINANTS TO ANYONE UNLESS CONSENT TO DISCLOSE IS PROVIDED BY THE RESIDENT OR COMPLAINANT OR DISCLOSURE IS REQUIRED BY COURT ORDER (Title 42 United States Code Section 3058g(d)(2); WIC Section 9725).

I, _____, have read and understand my responsibility to report known or suspected abuse of dependent adults or elders. I will comply with the reporting requirements.

SIGNATURE	DATE
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