

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 26, 1991

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-77-91

TO: ALL-COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE REPORTING
CHAPTER 197, STATUTES OF 1991

Chapter 197, Statutes of 1991, (Assembly Bill (AB) 1046, Tucker) adds "optometrists" to the definition of health practitioners (Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) 15610(i)) who are mandated to report suspected instances of physical abuse of elders and dependent adults as required under W&IC Section 15630(a). The new legislation is effective January 1, 1992.

The guidelines for abuse investigations, sent to all County Adult Protective Services staff in November, 1990 (All-County Letter No. 90-109), contains a list of mandated reporters under APPENDIX B, to which may be added "optometrist" under "Health Practitioners." Also, in the guidelines under APPENDIX L, is a list of "Health Practitioner Licensing Agencies," to which may be added the name, address, and telephone number of the state licensing board for optometrists, as follows:

State Board of Optometry
400 R Street, Suite 3130
Sacramento, CA 95814-6200
(916) 323-8720

Notification of the above legislation will be sent by the Department to the California Optometric Association and to the State Board of Optometry.

If you have any questions or comments, please telephone Lucille Toscano of the Adult Services Branch at (916) 657-3543.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loren D. Suter".

LOREN D. SUTER
Deputy Director
Adult and Family Services

cc: CWDA