

MANDATED REPORTING – Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

DEFINITION:

Any act of omission or commission that endangers or impairs a child's physical or emotional health and development including:

- Physical abuse, corporal punishment
- Physical neglect and/or inadequate supervision
- Sexual abuse and/or exploitation
- Emotional abuse, depravation

PROTECTION:

Penal Code Section 11166 requires any **Mandated Reporter** who reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect must:

- Report the known or suspected instance of child abuse to a child protective agency immediately by phone
- Prepare and send a written report within 36 hours of receiving the information

As outlined in Penal code 11167, **Mandated Reporters include:**

Teachers, administrators, supervisors, certificated pupil personnel and classified employees of any public or private school

REQUIRED ACTION BY DISTRICT EMPLOYEES:

- Immediately **call** the Fresno County Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Division, at **(559) 600-8320**, and provide the following information:
 - Your name
 - Name of the child
 - Present location of the child
 - Nature and extent of injury
 - Any other information that led the reporter to suspect child abuse
 - Other information requested

• Within 36 hours of calling, complete the Suspected Child Abuse Report. Retain a copy for your personal record. The form can also be found on-line on the State of California Department of Justice website at

https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/ss_8572.pdf. This form can be completed online, printed, and then **faxed** to **(559) 266-2463**

- **Mail** the original copy to: Department of Social Services, Attention: Child Welfare Division, PO Box 1912, Fresno, CA 93718

OTHER REFERENCES/SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- BP/AR 5141.4 Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting
 - Available on the Board Policies website:

[Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting BP 5141.4](#)

[Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting AR 5141.4](#)

- Human Resources Manual: Section HR 4105

➢ Available on the HR Website

https://hr.fresnounified.org/wp-content/uploads/HR-4105_Child-Abuse-and-Neglect-Reporting-Act_29Sept2020.pdf

- State of California Education Code, Section 48987

➢ Available on the State of California Legislation Information website

http://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=48987&lawCode=EDC

[FRESNO COUNTY DSS CHILD WELFARE: CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PAGE](#)

If you do not report child abuse, you may be found guilty of a misdemeanor and may be held liable for civil damages. You are not liable either in civil damages or for criminal prosecution for reporting as required by law, if the suspected child abuse is unfounded.