



## CALIFORNIA MANDATED REPORTING EASY STEPS...

### WHAT MUST BE REPORTED and HOW TO REPORT!

#### **What Must be Reported:**

Any of the below acts involving anyone under the age of 18:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect

The mandated reporter must only have *reasonable suspicion* that a child has been mistreated; no evidence or proof is required prior to making a report.

The case will be further investigated by law enforcement and/or child welfare services.

#### **How to Report:**

**By Phone:** Immediately, or as soon as possible, make a telephone report to child welfare services and/or to a Police or Sheriff's department.

1. Child Welfare Services phone # \_\_\_\_\_
2. Police Department phone # \_\_\_\_\_
3. Sheriff's Department phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**In Writing:** Within 36 hours, a written report must be sent, faxed or submitted electronically. The written report should be completed on a state form called the 8572, which can be downloaded at [http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss\\_8572.pdf](http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf)

#### **Other information:**

- Safeguards for Mandated Reporters:
  - The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) states that the name of the mandated reporter is strictly confidential, although it is provided to investigative parties working on the case.
  - Under state law, mandated reporters cannot be held liable in civil or criminal court when reporting as required; however, under federal law mandated reporters only have immunity for reports made in good faith.
- Failure to report:
  - Failure to report concerns of child abuse or neglect is considered a misdemeanor and is punishable in California by six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine.
- For the complete law and a list of mandated reporters refer to California Penal Codes 11164-11174.3.

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This document and Mandated Reporting information can be found at  
[www.mandatedreporterca.com](http://www.mandatedreporterca.com)