McKinney's Consolidated Laws of New York Annotated Social Services Law (Refs & Annos) Chapter 55. Of the Consolidated Laws Article 6. Children Title 6. Child Protective Services (Refs & Annos)

#### McKinney's Social Services Law § 413

§ 413. Persons and officials required to report cases of suspected child abuse or maltreatment

Effective: April 12, 2018
Currentness

- 1. (a) The following persons and officials are required to report or cause a report to be made in accordance with this title when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child coming before them in their professional or official capacity is an abused or maltreated child, or when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is an abused or maltreated child where the parent, guardian, custodian or other person legally responsible for such child comes before them in their professional or official capacity and states from personal knowledge facts, conditions or circumstances which, if correct, would render the child an abused or maltreated child: any physician; registered physician assistant; surgeon; medical examiner; coroner; dentist; dental hygienist; osteopath; optometrist; chiropractor; podiatrist; resident; intern; psychologist; registered nurse; social worker; emergency medical technician; licensed creative arts therapist; licensed marriage and family therapist; licensed mental health counselor; licensed psychoanalyst; licensed behavior analyst; certified behavior analyst assistant; hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons; a Christian Science practitioner; school official, which includes but is not limited to school teacher, school guidance counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, school nurse, school administrator or other school personnel required to hold a teaching or administrative license or certificate; full or part-time compensated school employee required to hold a temporary coaching license or professional coaching certificate; social services worker; employee of a publicly-funded emergency shelter for families with children; director of a children's overnight camp. summer day camp or traveling summer day camp, as such camps are defined in section thirteen hundred ninety-two of the public health law; day care center worker; school-age child care worker; provider of family or group family day care; employee or volunteer in a residential care facility for children that is licensed, certified or operated by the office of children and family services; or any other child care or foster care worker; mental health professional; substance abuse counselor; alcoholism counselor; all persons credentialed by the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services; employees, who are expected to have regular and substantial contact with children, of a health home or health home care management agency contracting with a health home as designated by the department of health and authorized under section three hundred sixty-five-l of this chapter or such employees who provide home and community based services under a demonstration program pursuant to section eleven hundred fifteen of the federal social security act who are expected to have regular and substantial contact with children; peace officer; police officer; district attorney or assistant district attorney; investigator employed in the office of a district attorney; or other law enforcement official.
- (b) Whenever such person is required to report under this title in his or her capacity as a member of the staff of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency, he or she shall make the report as required by this title and immediately notify the person in charge of such institution, school, facility or agency, or his or her designated agent. Such person in charge, or the designated agent of such person, shall be responsible for all subsequent administration necessitated by the report. Any report shall include the name, title and contact information for every staff person of the institution who is believed to have direct knowledge of the allegations in the report. Nothing in this section or title is intended to require more than one report from any such institution, school or agency.

- (c) A medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency shall not take any retaliatory personnel action, as such term is defined in paragraph (e) of subdivision one of section seven hundred forty of the labor law, against an employee because such employee believes that he or she has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is an abused or maltreated child and that employee therefore makes a report in accordance with this title. No school, school official, child care provider, foster care provider, residential care facility provider, hospital, medical institution provider or mental health facility provider shall impose any conditions, including prior approval or prior notification, upon a member of their staff specifically required to report under this title. At the time of the making of a report, or at any time thereafter, such person or official may exercise the right to request, pursuant to paragraph (A) of subdivision four of section four hundred twenty-two of this title, the findings of an investigation made pursuant to this title.
- (d) Social services workers are required to report or cause a report to be made in accordance with this title when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is an abused or maltreated child where a person comes before them in their professional or official capacity and states from personal knowledge facts, conditions or circumstances which, if correct, would render the child an abused or maltreated child.
- 2. Any person, institution, school, facility, agency, organization, partnership or corporation which employs persons mandated to report suspected incidents of child abuse or maltreatment pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall provide consistent with section four hundred twenty-one of this chapter, all such current and new employees with written information explaining the reporting requirements set out in subdivision one of this section and in sections four hundred fifteen through four hundred twenty of this title. The employers shall be responsible for the costs associated with printing and distributing the written information.
- 3. Any state or local governmental agency or authorized agency which issues a license, certificate or permit to an individual to operate a family day care home or group family day care home shall provide each person currently holding or seeking such a license, certificate or permit with written information explaining the reporting requirements set out in subdivision one of this section and in sections four hundred fifteen through four hundred twenty of this title.
- 4. Any person, institution, school, facility, agency, organization, partnership or corporation, which employs persons who are mandated to report suspected incidents of child abuse or maltreatment pursuant to subdivision one of this section and whose employees, in the normal course of their employment, travel to locations where children reside, shall provide, consistent with section four hundred twenty-one of this title, all such current and new employees with information on recognizing the signs of an unlawful methamphetamine laboratory. Pursuant to section 19.27 of the mental hygiene law, the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services shall make available to such employers information on recognizing the signs of unlawful methamphetamine laboratories.

#### Credits

(Added L.1973, c. 1039, § 1. Amended L.1979, c. 81, § 1; L.1980, c. 843, § 182; L.1984, c. 932, § 1; L.1985, c. 676, § 4; L.1985, c. 677, § 7; L.1986, c. 718, § 1; L.1988, c. 544, § 1; L.1989, c. 194, § 1; L.1994, c. 306, § 2; L.1995, c. 94, § 1; L.2001, c. 432, § 1, eff. Feb. 1, 2002; L.2002, c. 420, § 8, eff. Sept. 1, 2004; L.2002, c. 676, § 11, eff. Jan. 1, 2005; L.2005, c. 394, § 7, eff. Nov. 1, 2005; L.2007, c. 193, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 2007; L.2007, c. 513, § 1, eff. Oct. 14, 2007; L.2008, c. 323, § 14, eff. Jan. 17, 2009; L.2008, c. 366, § 1, eff. July 21, 2008; L.2011, c. 91, § 1, eff. June 22, 2011; L.2012, c. 501, pt. D, § 3, eff. June 30, 2013; L.2013, c. 554, § 12, eff. July 1, 2014; L.2014, c. 126, § 6, eff. July 1, 2014; L.2014, c. 205, § 1, eff. July 1, 2015; L.2017, c. 56, pt. Q, § 2, eff. July 19, 2017; L.2018, c. 57, pt. C, § 7, eff. April 12, 2018.)

**Editors' Notes** 

#### PRACTICE COMMENTARIES

by Joseph R. Carrieri

This section mandates certain persons and officials who are required to report cases of suspected child abuse or maltreatment. Specifically, these persons and officials are required to report or cause a report to be made when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child coming before them in their professional or official capacity is an abused or maltreated child or when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is an abused or maltreated child where the parent, guardian, custodian or other person legally responsible for such child comes before them in their professional or official capacity and states from personal knowledge facts, conditions or circumstances which, if correct, would render the child an abused or maltreated child. There are numerous persons or officials who are required to report and a partial list includes physicians, surgeons, medical examiner, coroner, dentists, dental hygienist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, resident, intern, psychologist, registered nurse, emergency medical technician, school official, social service worker, daycare center worker. Law enforcement personnel are mandated to report, such as police officers, peace officers, district attorneys, assistant district attorneys, and investigators employed in the office of the district attorney. The above officials are an example of those required to report. The practitioner is director to section 413 amendments as to a full list of those mandated to report abuse or maltreatment.

#### **Emergency Medical Technician**

In this day of heightened awareness that children are being abused and maltreated, the law requires certain responsible persons to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment of the child. Persons who have a duty to report are usually persons of an official capacity or who are professionals, such as a physician, registered physician assistant, surgeon, medical examiner, coroner, dentist, dental hygienist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, resident, intern, psychologist, registered nurse, hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of person, Christian Science practitioner, school official, social service worker, day care worker, provider of family or group family day care, employee or volunteer in a residential care facility; mental health professional, substance abuse counselor, alcoholism counselor, peace officer; police officer, district attorney or assistant district attorney, investigator employed in the office of a district attorney. Add emergency medical technician to this list of persons obligated to report suspected child abuse.

The justification of the amendment was offered that this amendment would further safeguard the lives and physical well-being of children who are victims of child abuse. The legislature further wrote that it was ironic that the long list of mandated reporters of suspected child abuse did not include emergency medical technicians (EMTs) since the emergency medical technicians are often the first individuals to arrive at the scene of a medical emergency and would likewise often be the first to detect any instances of child abuse.

An amendment added a registered physician's assistant among the persons who are required to report cases of suspected child abuse or maltreatment. The list of persons who must report suspected child abuse or maltreatment is growing and includes, among others, physicians, surgeons, medical examiners, dentists, chiropractors, interns and registered nurses. (See this section for a complete list of mandated reporters.)

One of the mandated reporters is a school official. A case involving a school teacher is noteworthy for the far-reaching effect the decision may have upon those who report suspected child abuse without first investigating the facts. The case in point is *Vacchio v. St. Paul's United Methodist Nursery School*, New York Law Journal, July 21, 1995 p. 32 col. 2. In the *Vacchio* case, the nursery school teacher noticed that the infant had a disturbing black eye and without

more called the New York State Central Registry on child abuse and maltreatment and reported in effect that the infant was a victim of abuse and/or maltreatment. The parents of the child sued the teacher and the school for money damages alleging that the report was baseless, unfounded and patently false and that it was made without any attempt to determine the facts and circumstances surrounding how the child got the black eye. The defendants asserted that the immunity afforded by § 419 of the Social Services Law insulated them from civil liability. The defendants made a motion to dismiss under C.P.L.R. Rule 3211. Judge Bruce Alpert of the Supreme Court, Nassau County, denied the defendants' motion and noted that it did not appear from the papers submitted that any attempt was made to determine how the black eye was caused before reporting the suspected abuse or maltreatment. In discussing the immunity afforded the defendants pursuant to § 419, the judge acknowledged that for the purposes of any criminal or civil proceeding, the good faith of any person or official required to report cases of child abuse or maltreatment shall be presumed, provided such person, official or institution was acting in the discharge of their duties and within the scope of their employment, and that such liability did not result from the willful misconduct or gross negligence of such person, official or institution. The court, in denying the motion to dismiss the complaint against the school teacher and the school, held that where a motion to dismiss the complaint pursuant to C.P.L.R. Rule 3211 is made, the court must construe the pleadings in a light most favorable to the plaintiffs. Having so stated, the judge then went on to write that it is at least arguable that the failure to conduct a preliminary inquiry or investigation prior to the rendering of a report may support a finding of gross negligence. This decision must cause every mandated reporter listed in § 413 to be extremely concerned about potential liability in reporting suspected child abuse or maltreatment. It may be reasonable to expect that the Vacchio decision could put a chilling effect on the reporting of suspected child abuse or maltreatment by mandated reporters. This, of course, would be contrary to the legislative intent which was to encourage people to freely report suspected child abuse or maltreatment. Judge Alpert in quoting from another case equated gross negligence with reckless disregard for the rights of others which smacks of intentional wrongdoing. The legislative purpose behind § 413 is the protection of the child, and hence the Appellate Court must strike a reasonable balance between the protection of the child and the injury to the parent or guardian where an inaccurate or unfounded or false report is made. Surely it was the legislative intent behind this section that all persons be invited to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment. Further, the legislature mandated certain persons who come in contact with children to make such reports. Nothing in this decision should, therefore, discourage mandated persons or even nonmandated persons from making reports of suspected child abuse to the appropriate authorities. However, based upon the Vacchio decision, inquiry must be made to protect the rights of the parent or guardian but also to insulate the reporter from possible civil liability.

#### Failure to Report

A Mandated reporter may be liable for money damages if he or she fails to report suspected child abuse. *Kimberly v. Bradford* (4th Dept. 1996) 226 A.D.2d 85, 649 N.Y.S.2d 588.

## Immunity from Law Suit

A school district was given immunity from liability for good faith compliance with reporting requirements where it reported suspected educational neglect absence allegation and proof of *actual malice* in making the report. *Schlar v. Fayetteville* (4th Dept. 2002), 300 A.D.2d 1115, 753 N.Y.S.2d 636.

In order for a plaintiff to succeed in getting monetary award, the plaintiff must show willful misconduct or gross negligence on the part of the mandated reporter in order to overcome the statutory presumption of good faith in reporting the suspected abuse. *Goldberg v. Edson* (2nd Dept. 2007); 41 A.D.3d 428, 838 N.Y.S.2d 145.

Notes of Decisions (52)



# Summary Guide for Mandated Reporters in New York State

This material provides mandated reporters with an overview of their obligations and some basic information about the New York State Child Protective Services (CPS) system.

#### Who Are Mandated Reporters?

New York State recognizes that certain professionals are specially equipped to perform the important role of mandated reporter of child abuse or maltreatment. Those professionals include:

- \* Physician
- \* Registered physician's assistant
- \* Surgeon
- \* Medical examiner
- \* Coroner
- \* Dentist
- \* Dental hygienist
- \* Osteopath
- \* Optometrist
- \* Chiropractor
- \* Podiatrist
- \* Resident
- \* Intern
- \* Psychologist
- \* Registered nurse
- \* Social worker
- \* Emergency medical technician

- \* Licensed creative arts therapist
- Licensed marriage and family therapist
- \* Licensed mental health counselor
- \* Licensed psychoanalyst
- \* Licensed behavior analysts
- \* Certified behavior analyst assistants
- Hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons
- treatment of persons

  Christian science practitioner

  School official, including (but not
  - limited to): - teacher
  - quidance counselor
  - psychologist
  - social worker
  - nurse
  - administrator or other school personnel required to hold a teaching or administrative license or certificate

- \* Social services worker
- \* Director of a
  - children's overnight camp,
  - summer day camp or
  - traveling summer day camp
- ★ Day care center worker
- \* School age child care worker
- Provider of family or group family day care
- Employee or volunteer in a residential care facility for children
- Any other child care or foster care worker
- \* Mental health professional
- ★ Substance abuse counselor
- \* Alcoholism counselor
- All persons credentialed by the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services

- \* Peace officer
- \* Police officer
- District attorney or assistant district attorney
- Investigator employed in the office of the district attorney
- \* Any other law enforcement official

The entire current list can be found in Article 6, Title 6, and Section 413 of the New York Social Services Law. The website can be accessed online through the New York State Legislature's Website (http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menuf.cgi). Click on Laws of New York to access Social Services Law.

## When Am I Mandated to Report?

Mandated reporters are required to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment when they are presented with a reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment in a situation where a child, parent, or other person legally responsible for the child is before the mandated reporter when the mandated reporter is acting in his or her official or professional capacity. "Other person legally responsible" refers to a guardian, caretaker, or other person 18 years of age or older who is responsible for the care of the child.

Mandated reporters who are social services workers have expanded reporting requirements. Social services workers are required to report when, in their official or professional role, they are presented with a reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment where any person is before the mandated reporter and the mandated reporter is acting in his or her official or professional capacity.

## What is a Professional Role?

For example, a doctor examining a child in her practice who has a reasonable suspicion of abuse must report her concern. In contrast, the doctor who witnesses child abuse when riding her bike while off-duty is not mandated to report that abuse. The mandated reporter's legal responsibility to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment ceases when the mandated reporter stops practicing his/her profession. Of course, anyone may report any suspected abuse or maltreatment at any time and is encouraged to do so.

# Reasonable Cause to Suspect

Reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment means that, based on your rational observations, professional training and experience, you have a suspicion that the parent or other person legally responsible for a child is responsible for harming that child or placing that child in imminent danger of harm. Your suspicion can be as simple as distrusting an explanation for an injury.



# Summary Guide for Mandated Reporters in New York State

# What Is Abuse and Maltreatment? Abuse

Abuse encompasses the most serious injuries and/or risk of serious injuries to children by their caregivers. An abused child is one whose parent or other person legally responsible for his or her care inflicts serious physical injury upon the child, creates a substantial risk of serious physical injury, or commits a sex offense against the child. Abuse also includes situations where a parent or other person legally responsible knowingly allows someone else to inflict such harm on a child.

### Maltreatment (Includes Neglect)

Maltreatment means that a child's physical, mental or emotional condition has been impaired, or placed in imminent danger of impairment, by the failure of the child's parent or other person legally responsible to exercise a minimum degree of care by:

\* failing to provide sufficient food, clothing, shelter, education;

or

- \* failing to provide proper supervision, guardianship, or medical care (refers to all medical issues, including dental, optometric, or surgical care); or
- \* inflicting excessive corporal punishment, abandoning the child, or misusing alcohol or other drugs to the extent that the child was placed in imminent danger.

Poverty or other financial inability to provide the above is not maltreatment.

**Note:** The definitions of abuse and maltreatment are different for children in residential facilities operated or licensed by the state.

# How Do I Recognize Child Abuse and Maltreatment?

The list that follows contains some common indicators of abuse or maltreatment. This list is not all-inclusive, and some abused or maltreated children may not show any of these symptoms.

# Indicators of Physical Abuse Can Include:

- \* Injuries to the eyes or both sides of the head or body (accidental injuries typically only affect one side of the body);
- \* Frequent injuries of any kind (bruises, cuts, and/or burns), especially if the child is unable to provide an adequate explanation of the cause. These may appear in distinctive patterns such as grab marks, human bite marks, cigarette burns, or impressions of other instruments:
- \* Destructive, aggressive, or disruptive behavior;
- \* Passive, withdrawn, or emotionless behavior;
- \* Fear of going home or fear of parent(s).

#### Indicators of Sexual Abuse Can Include:

- \* Symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases;
- \* Injury to genital area;
- \* Difficulty and/or pain when sitting or walking; Sexually suggestive, inappropriate, or promiscuous behavior or verbalization;
- \* Expressing age-inappropriate knowledge of sexual relations:
- \* Sexual victimization of other children.

#### Indicators of Maltreatment Can Include:

- \* Obvious malnourishment, listlessness, or fatigue;
- \* Stealing or begging for food;
- \* Lack of personal care—poor personal hygiene, torn and/or dirty clothes;
- \* Untreated need for glasses, dental care, or other medical attention;
- \* Frequent absence from or tardiness to school;
- \* Child inappropriately left unattended or without supervision.



# Summary Guide for Mandated Reporters in New York State

# Where Do I Call to Make a Report?

As soon as you suspect abuse or maltreatment, you must report your concerns by telephone to the New York Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment (SCR). The SCR is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to receive your call. The timeliness of your call is vital to the timeliness of intervention by the local department of social services' Child Protective Services (CPS) unit. You are not required to notify the parents or other persons legally responsible either before or after your call to the SCR. In fact, in some cases, alerting the parent may hinder the local CPS investigation and adversely affect its ability to assess the safety of the children. The telephone numbers to report abuse or maltreatment by a parent, foster care or day care are:

Public Hotline (800) 342-3720
For Abuse by Institutional Staff:
1-855-373-2122

Oral reports to the SCR from a mandated reporter must be followed within 48 hours by a written report to the local department of social services' CPS unit on form LDSS-2221A.

A copy of this form and the local mailing address can be obtained by contacting your local department of social services, or by visiting the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) website at <a href="mailto:ocfs.ny.gov">ocfs.ny.gov</a>. Click on "Forms", then click on "Try a keyword search...", enter the form number in the box and click "Find".

To contact your local department of social services, click here: <a href="http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/localdss.asp">http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/localdss.asp</a>

## What Happens When I Call the SCR?

There may be times when you have very little information on which to base your suspicion of abuse or maltreatment, but this should not prevent you from calling the SCR. A trained specialist at the SCR will help to determine if the information you are providing can be registered as a report.

The LDSS-2221A Mandated Reporter form can be used to help you organize the identifying or demographic information you have at your disposal. Be sure to ask the SCR specialist for the "Call I.D." assigned to the report you have made.

If the SCR staff does not register the child abuse or maltreatment report, the reason for their decision should be clearly explained to you. You may also request to speak to a supervisor, who can help make determinations in difficult or unusual cases.

# Local CPS Role and Responsibilities

When a report is registered at the SCR, the local department of social services is immediately notified for investigation and follow-up. A local CPS caseworker will initiate an investigation within 24 hours.

CPS intervention consists of an evaluation of the child and other children in the home and the development of a plan to meet the needs of the child and family. If there is an immediate threat to the child's life or health, CPS may remove the child from the home.

Upon request, CPS may obtain from the mandated reporter those records that are essential to a full investigation of alleged child abuse and maltreatment for any report made by the mandated reporter. The mandated reporter must determine which records are essential to the full investigation and provide those records to CPS when requested to do so.

Within 60 days of initiating the investigation, CPS will determine whether the report is indicated or unfounded. Mandated reporters may ask to be informed of the outcome of the report.

#### Law Enforcement Referrals

If a call to the SCR provides information about an immediate threat to a child or a crime committed against a child, but the perpetrator is not a parent or other person legally responsible for the child, the SCR staff will make a Law Enforcement Referral (LER). The relevant information will be recorded and transmitted to the New York State Police Information Network or to the New York City Special Victims Liaison Unit. This is not a CPS report, and local CPS will not be involved.



# **Summary Guide for Mandated Reporters** in New York State

# What Protection or Liability Do I Have? **Source Confidentiality**

The Social Services Law provides confidentiality for mandated reporters and all sources of child abuse and maltreatment reports. OCFS and local CPS are not permitted to release to the subject of the report any data that would identify the source of a report unless the source has given written permission for them to do so. Information regarding the source of the report may be shared with court officials, police, and district attorneys, but only in certain circumstances.

# Immunity from Liability

If a mandated reporter makes a report with earnest concern for the welfare of a child, he or she is immune from any criminal or civil liability that might result. This is referred to as making a report in "good faith."

## Protection from Retaliatory Personnel Action

Section 413 of the Social Services Law specifies that no medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency shall take any retaliatory personnel action against an employee who made a report to the SCR. Furthermore, no school, school official, child care provider, foster care provider, or mental health facility provider shall impose any conditions, including prior approval or prior notification, upon a member of their staff mandated to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment.

# Penalties for Failure to Report

Anyone who is mandated to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment—and fails to do so—could be charged with a Class A misdemeanor and subject to criminal penalties. Further, mandated reporters can be sued in a civil court for monetary damages for any harm caused by the mandated reporter's failure to make a report to the SCR.

# Who Provides Training for Mandated Reporters?

The New York State Education Department (SED) Office of the Professions oversees the training requirements for mandated reporters. Some categories—including teachers, many medical professionals, and social workers-need this training as part of their licensing requirement. The training may be included in their formal education program.

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is proud to be a certified provider authorized by SED to offer mandated reporter training, and has developed a comprehensive curriculum with content customized to medical professionals, educators, law enforcement personnel, day care providers, and human services staff.

OCFS has shared this well-received curriculum with other certified providers of mandated reporter training, as well as with colleges and universities across the state that provide educational programming in the fields covered by the mandated reporter statute.

OCFS provides mandated reporter training through a contractual agreement with the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

OCFS offers a Self-Directed Online Training for mandated reporters. This two-hour web-based online training course is available 24/7 and is accessible at:

#### www.nysmandatedreporter.org.

There is no cost to the participant.

Special Note: Mandated Reporters who require licensure or certification through the New York State Department of Education (NYSED) are required to take mandated reporter training from a trainer who has been approved by the New York State Education Department. For more information, please go to http://www.op.nysed.gov or contact the New York State Education Department at:

#### OPPLEUCA@mail.NYSSED.gov.

#### Conclusion

Protecting children and preventing child abuse and maltreatment does not begin or end with reporting. Efforts to prevent child abuse and maltreatment can only be effective when mandated reporters and other concerned citizens' work together to improve the safety net in their communities.

To be most effective, your local CPS needs strong partnerships within your community. By getting to know the staff in your local CPS unit, you will gain a better understanding of how your local program is structured, and CPS will better understand how to work more effectively with

By working together, we can better protect our vulnerable children.

New York State Office of Children & Family Services Capital View Office Park, 52 Washington Street

Rensselaer, New York 12144

To report child abuse and neglect, call: 1-800-342-3720

For information on the Abandoned Infant Protection Act,

1-866-505-SAFE (7233)

Mandated Reporters Hotline for making child abuse and maltreatment reports:

1-800-635-1522

Justice Center for Institutional Abuse: 1-855-373-2122

For additional copies of this pamphlet visit our website at: ocfs.ny.gov and click on "Publications."

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McKinney's Social Services Law § 413, NY SOC SERV § 413

Current through L.2019, chapter 256. Some statute sections may be more current, see credits for details.

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