

Connecticut Protective Services for the Elderly Program What Must Be Reported and How to Report



WHAT MUST BE REPORTED:

Any of the below acts involving anyone age 60 or older:

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| ■ Physical Abuse | ■ Sexual Abuse |
| ■ Emotional Abuse | ■ Neglect |
| ■ Financial Exploitation | ■ Abandonment |

WHO MAY REPORT

Any individual who has reasonable suspicion that an elder has been mistreated as noted above; no evidence or proof is required prior to making a report. Certain professionals, known as mandated reporters, are required by law to report suspected abuse/ neglect of an elder.

The case will be further investigated by protective services for the elderly and/or law enforcement.

HOW TO REPORT:

Reports should be made as soon as possible. Mandated Reporters are required to notify PSE not later than seventy-two hours of discovering the suspected abuse/neglect.

By Telephone <i>(Preferred Method of Reporting)</i>		
Weekdays (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 1-888-385-4225	After-hours, Weekends, Holiday's 211 (Infoline)	When Calling from Out of State 1-800-203-1234 (Infoline)

In Writing		
Complete the Form W-675 (available on DSS Website) www.ct.gov/dss		
Fax to:		Mail to:
DSS Social Work Unit 860-424-5091	or	CT Department of Social Services Social Work Services Unit 55 Farmington Avenue Hartford, CT 06105

OTHER INFORMATION:

Safeguards for Reporters: Any person, who makes any report, cannot be held liable in civil or criminal court when reports are made in good faith.

Failure to report: For mandated reporters, failure to report concerns to the Protective Services for the Elderly Program is considered a misdemeanor and is punishable by Connecticut law.

For the complete law and a list of mandated reporters refer to the Connecticut General Statutes: 17b 450-461 inclusive.

Connecticut Protective Services for the Elderly

Definitions of Abuse

- **Abuse:** The willful infliction of physical pain or mental anguish or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services, which are necessary to maintain physical and mental health.

- **Neglect:** The situation in which an elderly person is unable to take care of his or her needs or is being neglected by a caretaker responsible for providing services to maintain the person's physical or mental health.

- **Exploitation:** The act or process of taking advantage of an elderly person, whether for monetary or personal gain.

- **Abandonment:** Refers to the desertion or willful forsaking of an elderly person by a caretaker or the foregoing duties, or the withdrawal or neglect of duties and obligations owed an elderly person by a caretaker or other person.