

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

FIELD POLICIES

Effective: February 11, 2009

Reviewed: July 2016

Revised: July 1, 2018

Scope: BLS and ALS Personnel



EMS Agency Medical Director

REPORTING OF SUSPECTED ABUSE

AUTHORITY:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, section 1798 and; child abuse: California Penal Code, Article 2.5; and elder abuse: Chapter 1273, Statutes of 1983, SB 1210, Sections 9381 (a) and 9382. Welfare and Institutions Code Chapter II, Part 3, Division 9.

PURPOSE:

To establish a policy for identification and reporting of incidents suspected child, dependant adult or elder abuse.

DEFINITIONS:

Child- means any person under the age of eighteen.

Dependant Adult- means any person between the ages of 18 and 64 years and who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights, including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities, or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age.

Elder -means any person residing in this state, 65 years of age or older.

Abuse-

In a child means physical injury, including death, which is intentionally inflicted by another person or sexual assault of a child.

In dependant adults and elders means either of the following:

- a. Physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation, abduction, or other treatment with resulting physical harm or pain or mental suffering.
- b. The deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that is necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering.

Neglect-

In a child means the negligent failure of a parent or caretaker to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, or supervision.

In dependant adults and elders means either of the following:

- a. The negligent failure of any person having the care or custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.
- b. The negligent failure of an elder or dependent adult to exercise that degree of self care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.

Mandated Reporters- include, but are not limited to: Health care practitioners, medical personnel, care providers, social workers, law enforcement officers, senior center staff, and staff of government funded programs that provide services for elder or dependent adults. This includes physicians, nurses, paramedics, and EMT-Is.

POLICY:

All El Dorado County prehospital personnel are responsible for reporting incidents of suspected abusive behavior or neglect toward children, dependant adults, and elders.

REPORTING PROCEDURES:

- 1) For incidents where abuse is severe and the nature of the situation requires immediate intervention contact local law enforcement immediately.
- 2) Any prehospital care personnel who suspect an incidence of possible abuse or neglect shall report his or her suspicions by phone and in writing as described below:

For Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect:

- a. Telephone a report to CPS immediately or as soon as practically possible. The telephone report shall include the following:
 - Name of the person making the report
 - Name of the child
 - DOB of the child
 - Present location of the child
 - Address of the child
 - Nature and extent of the injury
 - Information that led reporting party to suspect child abuse
 - Any other pertinent information that may assist CPS
- b. Prepare a written report within 36 hours of the incident (see form SS8572) and forward the original copy to your respective CPS office:
https://www.edcgov.us/Government/HumanServices/Protective%20Services/Pages/child_protective_services.aspx

East Slope Child Protective Services 981 Silver Dollar Avenue South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-7761 24 hour phone: (530) 573-3201 Fax: (530) 541-2803	West Slope Child Protective Services 3057 Briw Road, Suite A Placerville, CA 95667 24 hour phone: (530) 642-7100 Fax: (530) 626-7427
---	--
- c. When two or more persons who are required to report are present and jointly have knowledge of a suspected instance of child abuse, and when there is agreement among them, the telephone report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by such selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so, shall thereafter make the report.

For Suspected Dependant Adult or Elder Abuse/Neglect:

- a. Telephone a report to APS immediately or as soon as practically possible. Contact the El Dorado County Adult Protective Services Agency at (530) 642-4800 and relay the following information:
 - Name of the person making the report
 - Name of the victim
 - DOB of the victim
 - Present location of the victim
 - Address of the victim
 - Nature and extent of the injury
 - Information that led reporting party to suspect abuse
 - Any other pertinent information that may assist APS
- b. Prepare a written report within 36 hours of the incident (see APS form) and forward the original copy to:
https://www.edcgov.us/Government/HumanServices/Protective%20Services/APS/Pages/adult_protective_services.aspx

El Dorado County Adult Protective Services (East and West Slope)
3057 Briw Road

Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 642-4800