



*** PARAMEDIC ALERT ***

No. 2008-01

Topic: Reporting of Suspected Abuse or Neglect

Effective: August 21, 2008

Attention All El Dorado County Prehospital Providers:

Paramedics, EMTs, paid firefighters, and all other healthcare practitioners working in the State of California are considered **mandated reporters** of any suspected abusive or neglectful behavior against children, dependant adults, or elders. Failure to report is a misdemeanor offense and carries a penalty of up to six months' imprisonment in the county jail, a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or both.

To assist our EMS providers in complying with these State reporting requirements we have placed PDF copies of the CPS and APS report forms on the EMS Agency website located in the "Forms" section. A formal policy on this should be forthcoming at the next policy review and implementation period.

REPORTING PROCEDURES:

- 1) For incidents where abuse is severe and the nature of the situation requires immediate intervention, contact local law enforcement immediately.
- 2) Verbally inform the receiving hospital staff of your suspicions and document such on the PCR.
- 3) Telephone a report to CPS or APS immediately or as soon as practically possible. The telephone report shall include the following:
 - 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
- 4) Prepare a written report within 36 hours of the incident and forward the original copy to your respective CPS or APS office.

Contact Information:

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

El Dorado County Adult Protective Services (East and West Slope)
3057 Briw Road, Suite A
Placerville, CA 95667.
24 hour phone: (530) 642-4800 Fax (530) 295-8307