

# 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
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual 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: [https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/ss\\_8572.pdf](https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/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.