

## Adult Abuse

### 417.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the reporting of suspected abuse of certain adults who may be more vulnerable than others. This policy also addresses mandatory notification for department employees as required by law.

#### 417.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Adult Abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect of an adult victim when committed by a person responsible for the adult's care, or any other act that would mandate reporting or notification to a social service agency or law enforcement (Penal Code § 368).

### 417.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Executive Committee;
- California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 15610.05, 15610.06, 15610.07, 15610.23, 15610.27, 15610.30, 15610.43, 15610.57, 15610.63, 15630, 15630(b), 15630(b)(c), 15630(e), 15630(h);
- California Health and Safety Code §§ 1250, 1250.2, 1250.3;
- California Penal Code § 368.

### 417.3 POLICY

The Riverside County Probation Department will ensure proper reporting and notification of all reported incidents of alleged adult abuse as required by law.

### 417.4 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Employees of the Riverside County Probation Department shall notify Riverside County Adult Protective Services (APS) and law enforcement, based upon the circumstances, when they reasonably suspect, have observed or have knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be abuse of an elder (age 65 or older) or dependent adult, or are told by an elder or dependent adult that he/she has experienced abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

A dependent adult is an individual, between 18 and 64 years of age, who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his/her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his/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. This also includes those admitted as inpatients to a 24-hour health facility, as defined in state law (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.23).

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Notification shall be made by telephone immediately or as soon as practicable. A written report ([Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse](#)) shall be mailed or faxed within two working days as provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)(c).

For purposes of notification, abuse is physical abuse, abandonment, abduction, isolation, financial abuse or neglect. Physical abuse includes any assault or sex crime (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.63). Financial abuse includes taking personal or real property by undue influence or intent to defraud (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.30).

Failure to comply with the reporting requirements outlined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(h) is a misdemeanor.

#### 417.4.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Notification to APS should include the following information, if known (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(e)):

- (a) The name of the person making the report.
- (b) The name and age of the elder or dependent adult.
- (c) The present location of the elder or dependent adult.
- (d) The names and addresses of family members or any other adult responsible for the care of the elder or dependent adult.
- (e) The nature and extent of the condition of the elder or dependent adult.
- (f) The date of incident.
- (g) Any other information, including information that led the person to suspect elder or dependent adult abuse.

Employees shall refer to the [Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse](#) form and the [APS](#) county website for instructions on completing the form and reporting procedures.

The reporting employee's supervisor shall refer to the general instructions listed in the Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse form to ensure that proper notifications have occurred to law enforcement or any applicable regulatory agency per Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b).

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