# BOARD POLICY BP 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

#### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

The Board of Trustees is committed to supporting the safety and well-being of District students and desires to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school-based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

#### Child Abuse Prevention

The District's instructional program shall include age-appropriate and child abuse prevention curriculum. This curriculum shall explain students' right to live free of abuse, include instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, inform students of available support resources, and teach them how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse. The curriculum also shall include training in self-protection techniques.

The District's program also may include age-appropriate curriculum in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Upon written request of a student's parent/guardian, the student shall be excused from taking such instruction.

The Superintendent or designee shall to the extent feasible, seek to incorporate community resources into the District's child abuse prevention programs and may use these resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

#### Child Abuse Reporting

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the District and/or school comprehensive safety plan.

District employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

Mandated reporters shall not investigate any suspected incidents, but rather shall cooperate with agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting cases of child abuse and neglect.

# BOARD POLICY BP 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

**Child Abuse Reporting (continued)** 

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the reporting duties of mandated reporters.

#### Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32288 Comprehensive school safety plans

33195 Heritage schools, mandated reporters

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

44252 Teachers Credentialing

44691 Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect

44807 Duty concerning conduct of students

44906 Notification when student released to peace officer

48987 Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents

49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment

51220.5 Parenting skills education

51900.6 Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention

PENAL CODE

152.3 Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act

 $273 a\ Willful\ cruelty\ or\ unjustifiable\ punishment\ of\ child;\ endangering\ life\ or\ health$ 

288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting

11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions

Policy Adopted: 02/18/92 Policy Revised: 09/04/01 Policy Revised: 01/11/11 Policy Revised: 04/26/16

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

# **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

#### **Definitions**

Child abuse or neglect includes the following:

- 1. A physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person.
- 2. Sexual abuse of a child, including sexual assault or sexual exploitation, as defined in Penal Code 11165.1.
- 3. Neglect of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.2.
- 4. Willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3.
- 5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Penal Code 11165.4.

#### Child abuse or neglect does not include:

- 1. A mutual affray between minors.
- 2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment.
- 3. An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning.
- 4. An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student.
- 5. Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by the student.
- 6. Homelessness or classification as an unaccompanied minor.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

## **STUDENTS**

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

#### <u>Definitions</u> (continued)

Mandated reporters include, but are not limited to, teachers; instructional aides; teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees; certificated pupil personnel employees; administrative officers or supervisors of child attendance; administrators and employees of a licensed day care facility; Head Start teachers; District police or security officers; licensed nurse or health care provider; and administrators, presenters, and counselors of a child abuse prevention program.

Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on his/her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. However, reasonable suspicion does not require certainty that child abuse or neglect has occurred nor does it require a specific medical indication of child abuse or neglect.

## Reportable Offenses

A mandated reporter shall make a report using the procedures provided below whenever, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, he/she has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect.

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that a child is suffering serious emotional damage or is at a substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, based on evidence of severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, may make a report to the appropriate agency.

Any District employee who reasonably believes that he/she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury, where the victim is a child under age 14 shall notify a peace officer.

#### Responsibility for Reporting

The reporting duties of mandated reporters are individual and cannot be delegated to another person.

When two or more mandated reporters jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, the report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the 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.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

#### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

Responsibility for Reporting (continued)

No supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit a mandated reporter from making a report.

Any person not identified as a mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he/she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency.

# Reporting Procedures

#### 1. Initial Telephone Report

Immediately or as soon as practicably possible after knowing or observing suspected child abuse or neglect, a mandated reporter shall make an initial report by telephone to any police department (excluding a school district police/security department), sheriff's department, county probation department if designated by the county to receive such reports, or county welfare department.

Child Abuse Registry/Orange County
P.O. Box 14102
Orange, CA 92863-1502
714-940-1000 (HOTLINE), 714-938-0289 (FAX)

When the initial telephone report is made, the mandated reporter shall note the name of the official contacted, the date and time contacted, and any instructions or advice received.

#### 2. Written Report

Within 36 hours of knowing or observing the information concerning the incident, the mandated reporter shall then prepare and either send, fax, or electronically submit to the appropriate agency a written follow-up report, which includes a completed Department of Justice form (SS 8572).

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

#### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

Reporting Procedures (continued)

The Department of Justice form may be obtained from the District office or other appropriate agencies, such as the county probation or welfare department or the police or sheriff's department.

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect shall include, if known:

- a. The name, business address, and telephone number of the person making the report and the capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter.
- b. The child's name and address, present location and, where applicable, school, grade, and class.
- c. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child's parents/guardians.
- d. The information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect and the source(s) of that information.
- e. The name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person(s) who might have abused or neglected the child.

The mandated reporter shall make a report even if some of this information is not known or is uncertain to him/her.

The mandated reporter may give to an investigator from an agency investigating the case, including a licensing agency, any information relevant to the incident of child abuse or neglect or to a report made for serious emotional damage pursuant to Penal Code 11166.05

# 3. Internal Reporting

The mandated reporter shall not be required to disclose his/her identity to his/her supervisor, the principal, or the Superintendent or designee.

However, employees reporting child abuse or neglect to an appropriate agency are encouraged, but not required, to notify the principal as soon as possible after the initial telephone report to the appropriate agency. When so notified, the principal shall inform the Superintendent or designee, who will then inform the Board of Trustees within 24 hours.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

# Reporting Procedures (continued)

The principal so notified shall provide the mandated reporter with any assistance necessary to ensure that reporting procedures are carried out in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. At the mandated reporter's request, the principal may assist in completing and filing the necessary forms.

Reporting the information to an employer, supervisor, principal, school counselor, coworker, or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to the appropriate agency.

# **Training**

Within the first six weeks of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide training on mandated reporting requirements to District employees and persons working on their behalf who are mandated reporters. Any school personnel hired during the school year shall receive such training within the first six weeks of employment.

The Superintendent or designee shall use the online training module provided by the California Department of Social Services. However, if the online training module is not used, the Superintendent or designee is required to report to the CDE regarding the training being used in its place.

The training shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, training in identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. In addition, the training shall include information that failure to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect as required by law is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine as specified.

The Superintendent or designee shall obtain the retain proof of each mandated reporter's completion of the training.

# Victim Interviews

Whenever the Department of Social Services or another government agency investigating suspected child abuse or neglect that occurred within the child's home or out-of-home care facility, the student may be interviewed by an agency representative during school hours, on school premises. The Superintendent or designed shall give the student the choice of being interviewed in private or in the presence of any adult school employee or volunteer aide selected by the student.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

# <u>Victim Interviews</u> (continued)

A staff member or volunteer aide selected by a child may decline to be present at the interview. If the selected person accepts, the principal or designee shall inform him/her of the following requirements:

- 1. The purpose of the selected person's presence at the interview is to lend support to the child and enable him/her to be as comfortable as possible.
- 2. The selected person shall not participate in the interview.
- 3. The selected person shall not discuss the facts or circumstances of the case with the child.
- 4. The selected person is subject to the confidentiality requirements of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, a violation of which is punishable as specified in Penal Code 11167.5.

If a staff member agrees to be present, the interview shall be held at a time during school hours when it does not involve an expense to the school.

#### Release of Child to Peace Officer

When a child is released to a peace officer and taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse or neglect, the Superintendent or designee and/or principal shall not notify the parent/guardian, but rather shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the child's parent/guardian.

# Parent/Guardian Complaints

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians with procedures for reporting suspected child abuse occurring at a school site to appropriate agencies. For parents/guardians whose primary language is other than English, such procedures shall be in their primary language and, when communicating orally regarding those procedures, an interpreter shall be provided.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING**

Parent/Guardian Complaints (continued)

To file a complaint against a District employee or other person suspected of child abuse or neglect at a school site, parents/guardians may file a report by telephone, in person, or in writing with any appropriate agency identified above under "Reporting Procedures." If a parent/guardian makes a complaint about an employee to any other employee, the employee receiving the information shall notify the parent/guardian of procedures for filing a complaint with the appropriate agency. The employee also is obligated pursuant to Penal Code 11166 to file a report himself/herself using the procedures described above for mandated reporters.

In addition, if the child is enrolled in special education, a separate complaint may be filed with the California Department of Education pursuant to 5 CCR 4650.

#### **Notifications**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide to all new employees who are mandated reporters a statement that informs them of their status as mandated reporters, of their reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166, and of their confidentiality rights under Penal Code 11167. The District shall also provide these new employees with a copy of Penal Code 11165.7, 11166, and 11167.

Before beginning employment, any person who will be a mandated reporter by virtue of his/her position shall sign a statement indicating that he/she has knowledge of the reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166 and that they will comply with those provisions. The signed statements shall be retained by the Superintendent or designee.

Employees who work with dependent adults shall be notified of legal responsibilities and reporting procedures pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 15630-15637.

The Superintendent or designee shall also notify all employees that:

1. A mandated reporter who reports a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for making a report and this immunity shall apply even if the mandated reporter acquired the knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect outside of his/her professional capacity or outside the scope of his/her employment. Any other person making a report shall not incur civil or criminal liability unless it can be proven that he/she knowingly made a false report or made a report with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

AR 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

# Notifications (continued)

- 2. If a mandated reporter fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect, he/she may be guilty of a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.
- 3. No employee shall be subject to any sanction by the District for making a report unless it can be shown that he/she knowingly made a false report or made a report with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report.

Regulation Adopted: 02/18/92 Regulation Revised: 09/04/01 Regulation Revised: 01/11/11 Regulation Revised: 04/26/16

Huntington Beach, California

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E 5141.4

#### STUDENTS

#### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

# OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT Huntington Beach, California

#### **Human Resources**

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All New Employees

Re:

DISTRICT CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND SEXUAL

HARASSMENT POLICY

State law requires that every school district employee who falls within certain statutorily defined categories be familiar with the laws relating to child abuse reporting requirements and work place sexual harassment policy. Such employees must, prior to commencing employment, sign a statement signifying that they have knowledge of the reporting requirements for child abuse and will comply with them, and have knowledge of the District Sexual Harassment Policy. (Penal Code Section 11164, 11165, 11165.5, 11165.7, 11165.9, 11165.11, 11165.12, 11166, 11172 (a), and Board Policy 4119.11 for sexual harassment)

Your employment falls within such a statutory category. Consequently, please read the attached materials which explain your responsibilities regarding any suspected instances of child abuse and the procedure for doing so, and that you are knowledgeable of the sexual harassment policy.

I have read the attached Penal Code, sections 11164, 11165, 11165.5, 11165.7, 11165.9, 11165.11, 11165.12, 11166, 11172 (a), and Board Policy 4119.11. I understand and agree to comply therewith.

Employee Signature	Date	
Please print name		

# **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

#### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

# TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT PLEASE CALL SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY (714) 940-1000

Ocean View School District Huntington Beach, CA 92647 Human Resources

# Receipt and Acknowledgment of Child Abuse Reporting

Section 11164 of the Penal Code requires any child care custodian, as defined in Penal Code section 11165.7 who has knowledge of or observes a child in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse, to report the known or suspected instance of child abuse to a child protective agency immediately, or as soon as practically possible, by telephone and to prepare and send a written report thereof within thirty-six (36) hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

Following is penal code sections 11164, 11165. 11165.5, 11165.7, 11165.9, 11165.11, 11165.12, 11166, and 11172(a) which explains the procedure for reporting child abuse:

- 11164 (a) This article shall be known and may be cited as the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act.
  - (b) The intent and purpose of this article is to protect children from abuse and neglect. In any investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect, all persons participating in the investigation of the case shall consider the needs of the child victim and shall do whatever is necessary to prevent psychological harm to the child victim.

As used in this article "child" means a person under the age of 18 years.

As used in this article, the term "abuse or neglect in out-of-home care" includes physical injury inflicted upon a child by another person by other than accidental means, sexual abuse as defined in Section 11165.1, neglect as defined in Section 11165.2, unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Section 11165.4, or the willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of a child, as defined in Section 11165.3, where the person responsible for the child's welfare is a licensee, administrator, or employee of any facility licensed to care for children, or an administrator or employee of a public or private school or other institution or agency. "Abuse or neglect in out-of-home care" does not include an injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his or her employment as a peace officer.

# Huntington Beach, California

#### **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

## **STUDENTS**

- 11165.7 (a) As used in this article, "mandated reporter" is defined as any of the following:
  - (1) A teacher.
  - (2) An instructional aide.
  - (3) A teacher's aide or teacher's assistant employed by any public or private school.
  - (4) A classified employee of any public school.
  - (5) An administrative officer or supervisor of child welfare and attendance, or a certificated pupil personnel employee of any public or private school.
  - (6) An administrator of a public or private day camp.
  - (7) An administrator or employee of a public or private youth center, youth recreation program, or youth organization.
  - (8) An administrator or employee of a public or private organization whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children.
  - (9) Any employee of a county office of education or the California Department of Education, whose duties bring the employee into contact with children on a regular basis.
  - (10) A licensee, an administrator, or an employee of a licensed community care or child day care facility.
  - (11) A Head Start teacher.
  - (12) A licensing worker or licensing evaluator employed by a licensing agency as defined in Section 11165.11.
  - (13) A public assistance worker.
  - (14) An employee of a child care institution, including, but not limited to, foster parents, group home personnel, and personnel of residential care facilities.
  - (15) A social worker, probation officer, or parole officer.
  - (16) An employee of a school district police or security department.
  - (17) Any person who is an administrator or presenter of, or a counselor in, a child abuse prevention program in any public or private school.
  - (18) A district attorney investigator, inspector, or family support officer unless the investigator, inspector, or officer is working with an attorney appointed pursuant to Section 317 of the Welfare and Institutions Code to represent a minor.
  - (19) A peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2, who is not otherwise described in this section.
  - (20) A firefighter, except for volunteer firefighters.
  - (21) A physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, psychologist, dentist, resident, intern, podiatrist, chiropractor, licensed nurse, dental hygienist, optometrist, marriage, family and child counselor, clinical social worker, or any other person who is currently licensed under Division 2 (commencing with Section 500) of the Business and Professions Code.

# Huntington Beach, California

#### BOARD POLICY

E 5141.4

## **STUDENTS**

- (22) Any emergency medical technician I or II, paramedic, or other person certified pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code.
- (23) A psychological assistant registered pursuant to Section 2913 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (24) A marriage, family and child therapist trainee, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 4980.03 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (25) An unlicensed marriage, family, and child therapist intern registered under Section 4980.44 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (26) A state or county public health employee who treats a minor for venereal disease or any other condition.
- (27) A coroner.
- (28) A medical examiner, or any other person who performs autopsies.
- (29) A commercial film and photographic print processor, as specified in subdivision (e) of Section 11166. As used in this article, "commercial film and photographic print processor" means any person who develops exposed photographic film into negatives, slides, or prints, or who makes prints from negatives or slides, for compensation. The term includes any employee of such a person; it does not include a person who develops film or makes prints for a public agency.
- (30) A child visitation monitor. As used in this article, "child visitation monitor" means any person who, for financial compensation, acts as monitor of a visit between a child and any other person when the monitoring of that visit has been ordered by a court of law.
- (31) An animal control officer or humane society officer. For the purposes of this article, the following terms have the following meanings:
  - (a) "Animal control officer" means any person employed by a city, county, or city and county for the purpose of enforcing animal control laws or regulations.
  - (b) "Humane society officer" means any person appointed or employed by a public or private entity as a humane officer who is qualified pursuant to Section 14502 or 14503 of the Corporations Code.
- (32) A clergy member, as specified in subdivision (c) of Section 11166. As used in this article, "clergy member" means a priest, minister, rabbi, religious practitioner, or similar functionary of a church, temple, or recognized denomination or organization.

# Huntington Beach, California

# **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

- (33) Any employee of any police department, county sheriff's department, county probation department, or county welfare department.
- (34) An employee or volunteer of a Court Appointed Special Advocate program, as defined in Rule 1424 of the Rules of Court.
  - (a) Volunteers of public or private organizations whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children are encouraged to obtain training in the identification and reporting of child abuse.
  - (b) Training in the duties imposed by this article shall include training in child abuse identification and training in child abuse reporting. As part of that training, school districts shall provide to all employees being trained a written copy of the reporting requirements and a written disclosure of the employees' confidentiality rights.
  - (c) School districts that do not train their employees specified in subdivision (a) in the duties of mandated reporters under the child abuse reporting laws shall report to the State Department of Education the reasons why this training is not provided.
  - (d) The absence of training shall not excuse a mandated reporter from the duties imposed by this article.

11165.9

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect shall be made by mandated reporters to any police department or sheriff's department, not including a school district police or security department, county probation department, if designated by the county to receive mandated reports, or the county welfare department. Any of those agencies shall accept a report of suspected child abuse or neglect whether offered by a mandated reporter or another person, or referred by another agency, even if the agency to whom the report is being made lacks subject matter or geographical jurisdiction to investigate the reported case, unless the agency can immediately electronically transfer the call to an agency with proper jurisdiction. When an agency takes a report about a case of suspected child abuse or neglect in which that agency lacks jurisdiction, the agency shall immediately refer the case by telephone, fax, or electronic transmission to an agency with proper jurisdiction.

11165.11

As used in this article, "licensing agency" means the State Department of Social Services office responsible for the licensing and enforcement of the California Community Care Facilities Act (Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1500) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code), the California Child Day Care Act (Chapter 3.4 (commencing with Section 1596.70) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code), and Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section licensing agency which has contracted with the state for performance of those duties.

# Huntington Beach, California

# **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

11165.12 As used in this article, the following definitions shall control:

- (a) "Unfounded report" means a report which is determined by the investigator who conducted the investigation to be false, to be inherently improbable, to involve an accidental injury, or not to constitute child abuse or neglect, as defined in Section 11165.6.
- (b) "Substantiated report" means a report which is determined by the investigator who conducted the investigation, based upon some credible evidence, to constitute child abuse or neglect, as defined in Section 11165.6.
- (c) "Inconclusive report" means a report which is determined by the investigator who conducted the investigation not to be unfounded, but in which the findings are inconclusive and there is insufficient evidence to determine whether child abuse or neglect, as defined in Section 11165.6, has occurred.

# CALL SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY AT (714) 940-1000

- 11166
- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), a mandated reporter shall make a report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9 whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. The mandated reporter shall make a report to the agency immediately or as soon as is practicably possible by telephone, and the mandated reporter shall prepare and send a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.
  - (1) For the purposes of this article, "reasonable suspicion" means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. For the purpose of this article, the pregnancy of a minor does not, in and of itself, constitute a basis for a reasonable suspicion of sexual abuse.
  - (2) A report made by a mandated reporter pursuant to this section shall be known as a mandated report.
- (b) Any mandated reporter who fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect as required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months confinement in a county jail or by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by both that fine and punishment.

# Huntington Beach, California

# **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

# **STUDENTS**

- (c) Any commercial film and photographic print processor who has knowledge of or observes, within the scope of his or her professional capacity or employment, any film, photograph, videotape, negative, or slide depicting a child under the age of 16 years engaged in an act of sexual conduct, shall report the instance of suspected child abuse to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the case immediately, or as soon as practically possible, by telephone, and shall prepare and send a written report of it with a copy of the film, photograph, videotape, negative, or slide attached within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. As used in this subdivision, "sexual conduct" means any of the following:
  - (1) Sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex or between humans and animals.
  - (2) Penetration of the vagina or rectum by any object.
  - (3) Masturbation for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.
  - (4) Sadomasochistic abuse for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.
  - (5) Exhibition of the genitals, pubic, or rectal areas of any person for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.
- (d) Any other person who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to an agency specified in Section 11165.9.
- (e) When two or more persons, who are required to report, jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, 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 the 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.
  - (1) The reporting duties under this section are individual, and no supervisor or administrator may impede or inhibit the reporting duties, and no person making a report shall be subject to any sanction for making the report. However, internal procedures to facilitate reporting and apprise supervisors and administrators of reports may be established provided that they are not inconsistent with this article.
  - (2) The internal procedures shall not require any employee required to make reports pursuant to this article to disclose his or her identity to the employer.

#### Huntington Beach, California

#### **BOARD POLICY**

E 5141.4

#### **STUDENTS**

- (3) Reporting the information regarding a case of possible child abuse or neglect to an employer, supervisor, school principal, school counselor, coworker, or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to an agency specified in Section 11165.9.
- (f) A county probation or welfare department shall immediately, or as soon as practically possible, report by telephone, fax, or electronic transmission to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the case, to the agency given the responsibility for investigation of cases under Section 300 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and to the district attorney's office every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, as defined in Section 11165.6, except acts or omissions coming within subdivision (b) of Section 11165.2, or reports made pursuant to Section 11165.13 based on risk to a child which relates solely to the inability of the parent to provide the child with regular care due to the parent's substance abuse, which shall be reported only to the county welfare or probation department. A county probation or welfare department also shall send, fax, or electronically transmit a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident to any agency to which it makes a telephone report under this subdivision.
- A law enforcement agency shall immediately, or as soon as practically possible, (g) report by telephone to the agency given responsibility for investigation of cases under Section 300 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and to the district attorney's office every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported to it, except acts or omissions coming within subdivision (b) of Section 11165.2, which shall be reported only to the county welfare or probation department. A law enforcement agency shall report to the county welfare or probation department every known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported to it which is alleged to have occurred as a result of the action of a person responsible for the child's welfare, or as the result of the failure of a person responsible for the child's welfare to adequately protect the minor from abuse when the person responsible for the child's welfare knew or reasonably should have known that the minor was in danger of abuse. A law enforcement agency also shall send, fax, or electronically transmit a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident to any agency to which it makes a telephone report under this subdivision.

Huntington Beach, California

# **BOARD POLICY**

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# **STUDENTS**

#### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

photographs.

11172

(a) No mandated reporter shall be civilly or criminally liable for any report required or authorized by this article. Any other person reporting a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect shall not incur civil or criminal liability as a result of any report authorized by this article unless it can be proven that a false report was made and the person knew that the report was false or was made with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report, and any person who makes a report of child abuse or neglect known to be false or with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report is liable for any damages caused. No person required to make a report pursuant to this article, nor any person taking photographs at his or her direction, shall incur any civil or criminal liability for taking photographs of a suspected victim of child abuse or neglect, or causing photographs to be taken of a suspected victim of child abuse or neglect, without parental consent, or for disseminating the photographs with the reports required by this article. However, this section shall not

be construed to grant immunity from this liability with respect to any other use of the

Exhibit Adopted: 09/04/01 Exhibit Revised: 01/11/11