

Children's Law Center
School of Law
University of South Carolina

Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect

A training for mandated reporters

Training To Empower

The purpose of the Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect training is to equip mandated reporters with relevant laws regarding their role and responsibilities as mandated reporters, and to increase their awareness, knowledge, and skills in reporting child abuse and neglect.

The Children's Law Center

is a resource center for South Carolina professionals involved in child maltreatment or juvenile justice court proceedings and child advocates working to improve the safety and well-being of children. The mission of the Center is to advance children's law by strengthening public policy, increasing knowledge, and improving practice.

Contact Us

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Are You a Mandated Reporter?

S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310 identifies the following professionals as mandated reporters:

- Physicians
- Nurses
- Dentists
- Optometrists
- Coroners
- Medical Examiners
- Employees of Coroners/
Medical Examiners
- Any other professional in these fields:
 - Medical
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Mental Health
 - Allied Health
- School Teachers
- Counselors
- Principals and Assistant Principals
- School Attendance Officers
- Childcare Workers in Childcare Centers or Foster Care Facilities
- Foster Parents
- Police and Law Enforcement Officers
- Juvenile Justice Workers
- Substance Abuse Treatment Staff
- Social Workers

- Public Assistance Workers
- Clergy, including Christian Science Practitioners and Religious Healers (subject to laws governing privileged communication)
- Clerical and Nonclerical Religious Counselors Who Charge for Services
- Undertakers
- Funeral Home Directors
- Employees of Funeral Homes
- Judges
- Volunteer Non-Attorney Guardians ad Litem
- Computer Technicians
- Persons Responsible for Processing Film

Why this matters...

To safeguard the welfare and safety of children, S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-310 requires certain professionals who are 18 or older to report suspected child abuse and neglect because of their unique opportunities to observe and interact with children. The named professionals, or mandated reporters, play a key role in protecting children by identifying possible maltreatment and reporting it to the agencies responsible for investigation and intervention. The law imposes legal penalties for mandated reporters who knowingly fail to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Training Objectives

- Identify mandated reporters according to South Carolina law
- Describe statutory requirements and protections
- Identify the role and responsibilities of mandated reporters
- Recognize signs of possible abuse and neglect
- Describe when to make a report of child abuse or neglect

Request a Training

The Children's Law Center will provide the Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect training free of charge at a location convenient for you. To schedule a training, contact us at 803-777-1646.