

STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGING REQUIREMENT TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE OF DEPENDENT ADULTS AND ELDERS

Name:
Title:
Campus:

California law *requires* certain people to report known or suspected dependent adult or elder abuse or neglect. You have been identified as one of those people – a “mandated reporter.” Mandated reporters are individuals who have “assumed full or intermittent responsibility for the care or custody of an elder or dependent adult,” as well as health care practitioners, clergy members, and law enforcement personnel. [W&I § 15630(a)]

DEPENDENT ADULTS AND ELDERS

A dependent adult is a California resident aged 18-64 who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights. These include persons with physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished with age or any person between the ages of 18 and 64 who is admitted as an inpatient to an acute care hospital. [W&I 15610.23] Elders are California residents age 65 or older. [W&I 15610.27]

WHEN REPORTING ABUSE IS REQUIRED

A mandated reporter, who in his or her professional capacity, or within the scope of his or her employment, has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be dependent adult or elder abuse or neglect, or who is told by a dependent adult or elder that he or she has experienced abuse or neglect, or reasonably suspects abuse or neglect, must report this information by telephone immediately or as soon as practically possible, and by written report within two (2) working days. [W&I 15630(b)]

ABUSE THAT MUST BE REPORTED

- *Physical abuse* [W&I § 15610.63]
- *Neglect* [W&I § 15610.57]
- *Financial abuse* [W&I § 15610.30(a)]
- *Abandonment* [W&I § 15610.05]
- *Isolation* [W&I § 15610.43]
- *Abduction* [W&I § 15610.06]

WHERE TO CALL IN AND SEND THE WRITTEN ABUSE REPORT

If the abuse occurred in a long-term care facility or residential facility serving adults or elders or an adult day program, you must report to local law enforcement and/or the local long-term care ombudsman, depending on the type of abuse. [W&I § 15630(b)(1)(A)]. Otherwise, you must report to local law enforcement (including Campus Police) or county adult protective services. [W&I § 15630(b)(1)(F)] Forms for submitting written reports may be found online at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/agedblinddisabled/PG1298.htm>. In addition, an internal report must be made to your supervisor or to the University Compliance Hotline. This internal report may be made anonymously.

PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT ABUSE

Failure to make a mandatory report may result in fines ranging from \$1000-\$5000 and imprisonment for 6 months to 1 year, depending on the circumstances. [W&I § 15630(h)]

COPY OF THE LAW

Prior to my employment at the University of California, my employer provided me with a copy of the Welfare & Institutions Code (“W&I”) section 15630 (Appendix 3). [W&I § 15659]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have knowledge of my responsibility to report known or suspected dependent adult or elder abuse or neglect in compliance with W&I § 15630.

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| Signature | Date |
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