

## **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR SUSPECTED ABUSE OF A CHILD IN SCOUTING**

The Boy Scouts require immediate notification of the Scout Executive whenever information about possible child abuse in the Boy Scout program is uncovered. The current policy for after-hours notification is to call the DeVos Family Center For Scouting in Grand Rapids at 616-785-2662 or 1-888-BSA-GRFC and dial ext. 201. During business hours Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, ask the receptionist for the Scout Executive.

The Scout Executive will insure that all state reporting requirements have been met and will also take measures to protect the youth in the Scouting movement.

If an immediate report is to be made due to extreme urgency, a contact to the Department of Human Services at 1-800-942-4357 if a child is thought to be in immediate and serious danger, dial 911. The Council Scout Executive should still be contacted in this situation.. The “Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Form” should be completed and submitted to the Council. (Reporting Form is on reverse side)

### **REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR SUSPECTED ABUSE OF A CHILD NOT IN SCOUTING**

The law says that any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse or acts of child abuse shall report this information immediately to the Department of Human Services.

From 9AM to 5PM weekdays, reports of child abuse and neglect can be made to the local Department of Human Services District office. There is at least one District Office in every county.

Department of Human Services accepts all allegations of child abuse and neglect by telephone and in person from all sources including identified sources, news media, and anonymous sources, sources that have incomplete information and referrals from the child or parent themselves.

Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, a Department of Human Services caseworker shall investigate the allegations and take such action as is necessary to insure the safety of the child.

### **IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY**

Any person who, pursuant to the law, reports abuse or neglect or testifies in a child abuse hearing resulting from such a report is immune from any criminal or civil liability as a result of such action.

### **PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT**

Any person who knowingly fails to report suspected abuse or neglect pursuant to the law or to comply with the provisions of the law is a disorderly person and subject to a fine up to \$500 or up to 93 days imprisonment, or both. In addition, any person who intentionally makes a false report is subject to the fines and penalties an abuser would receive if it were a true report.

## SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE REPORTING FORM

**The following information was provided to:**

Name of Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Suspected Abuser: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Scouting Position if Known: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Indicators Observed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Behavioral Indicators Observed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Indicators Observed/Known: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reporter's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Report: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Scout Executive  
Gerald R. Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America  
3213 Walker Ave NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49544