

<p>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania</p>  <p>Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole</p>	<p>Volume III Chapter 02</p> <p>Procedure 2.04.04</p>	<p>Date Revised: NEW</p>
<p>Chapter Title ADMINSTRATION, MANAGEMENT</p>		<p>Date of Issue 11/06/2014</p>
<p>Subject CHILD AND ELDER ABUSE REPORTING</p>		<p>Effective Date 11/20/2014 PUBLIC</p>

I. AUTHORITY

The chairman of the board is granted the authority to “direct the operations of the board and fulfill the functions established by the act... including organizing, staffing, controlling, directing, and administering the work of the staff.” 61 Pa. C.S. § 6112 (a)(1) & (a)(4)

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to provide staff with information on how to report child and elder abuse.

III. APPLICABILITY

This procedure is applicable to all board employees.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Reasonable Cause - Reasonable cause is a standard of proof. It is applied to a set of facts or actions to prove whether a reasonable person would have come to the same conclusion or acted in the same way given the totality of the circumstances.

V. POLICY

The board is committed to protecting the safety of the public.

VI. PROCEDURE

A. Reporting suspected child abuse: ChildLine (800)-932-0313

PBPP staff is required to report when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child under the care, supervision, guidance or training of an individual, agency, institution or organization is an abused child.

The Department of Public Welfare (Human Services) operates a 24/7 ChildLine (800)-932-0313 to accept calls from public and professional sources. Each call is answered by a trained intake specialist who will interview the caller to determine the most appropriate course of action.

ChildLine forwards the report of suspected child abuse to the local county children and youth agency, which investigates the report to determine if the allegations can be substantiated as child abuse/neglect and also arranges for or provides the services that are needed to prevent further maltreatment of the child.

B. Reporting elder abuse: Elder Abuse Hotline (866)-623-2137

Elder abuse and crimes targeting older people come in many forms including neglect, physical, financial and sexual abuse. Any PBPP staff member who has reasonable cause to believe that an older adult is being abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned shall call the Office of the Attorney General statewide elder abuse hotline (866)-623-2137.

Abuse reports can be made on behalf of an older adult whether the person lives in their home or in a care facility such as a nursing facility, personal care home, hospital, etc. Some common signs and/or symptoms of elder abuse may include:

- 1. Bruises, burns, fractures or weight loss.**
- 2. Signs of neglect, such as poor hygiene, malnutrition, illness or soiled clothing.**
- 3. The older person never goes outside or sees visitors.**
- 4. Withdrawing large sums of money from a savings account without apparent reason.**
- 5. Signing over his or her home to a relative.**

VII. SUSPENSION DURING AN EMERGENCY

This procedure may be suspended during an emergency at the sole discretion of the chairman.

VIII. RIGHTS UNDER THIS PROCEDURE

This procedure creates no rights under law.

IX. RELEASE OF INFORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURE

- A. This procedure does not contain information that impacts the security of board staff or parolees and may therefore be released to the public.**
- B. This procedure is to be distributed to all board staff.**

X. CROSS REFERENCES

A. Statutes

- 1. Federal**

42 U.S. Code § 13031

42 U.S. Code § 3058i

2. State

23 Pa. C.S. § 6313

35 P.S. § 10210.302

61 Pa. C.S. § 6112 (a)(1) & (a)(4)

B. PBPP Policies

The PBPP mission statement

C. American Correctional Association – None.

D. Management Directives – None.

E. Report of the Reentry Policy Council – None.