

MANDATED REPORTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING ACT (PENAL CODE SECTION 11164 ET SEQ)

Please review the following sections below.

Section 11165.7 of the California Penal Code defines a "mandated reporter" to include the following individuals: Teachers; instructional aides, teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees of any public school; administrators of employees of a public or private organization whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children; Any employee of a county office of education or the State Department of Education, whose duties bring the employee into contact with children on a regular basis; licensees, administrators, or employees of licensed community care or child day care facilities; Headstart teachers; and social workers.

Section 11166 of the California Penal Code states, in part:

A mandated reporter shall make a report to any police department or sheriff's department, county probation department, or the county welfare department, 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.

Section 11166.05 of the California Penal Code states, in part:

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that mental suffering has been inflicted upon a child or that his or her emotional well-being is endangered in any other way may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to any police department or sheriff's department, county probation department, or the county welfare department.

Section 1166.5 of the California Penal Code states, in part:

On and after January 1, 1985, any mandated reporter as specified in Section 11165.7, with the exception of child visitation monitors, prior to commencing his or her employment, and as a prerequisite to that employment, shall sign a statement on a form provided to him or her by his or her employer to the effect that he or she has knowledge of the provisions of Section 11166 and will comply with those provisions.

California Penal Code section 11172 provides that mandated reporters are IMMUNE FROM LIABILITY.

California Penal Code section 11166(b) provides penalties for FAILURE TO REPORT as follows:

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.