



Alabama Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Children	
<i>Who Must Report?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitals; • Clinics; • Sanitariums; • Doctors; • Physicians; • Surgeons; • Medical Examiners; • Coroners; • Dentists; • Osteopaths; • Optometrists; • Chiropractors; • Podiatrists; • Nurses; • School teachers and officials; • Peace officers; • Law enforcement officials; • Pharmacists; • Social workers; • Day care workers or employees; • Mental health professionals; • Members of the clergy (as defined in Rule 505 of the Alabama Rules of Evidence), except for information gained solely in a confidential, privileged communication; and • Any other person called upon to render aid or medical assistance to any child.
<i>Standard of Knowledge</i>	Knowledge or suspicion that a child is a victim of abuse or neglect.
<i>Definition of Applicable Victim</i>	Child means a person under the age of 18.
<i>Reports Made To</i>	Reports should be made to a “duly constituted authority,” which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chief of police of a municipality or municipality and county or the sheriff, if the observation of child abuse or neglect is made in an unincorporated territory; • the Department of Human Resources; or

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any person, organization, corporation, group, or agency authorized and designated by the Department of Human Resources to receive reports of child abuse and neglect <p>A duly constituted authority shall not include an agency involved in the acts or omissions of the reported child abuse or neglect.</p>
<i>Contents of Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the child, his whereabouts, the names and addresses of the parents, guardian or caretaker; the character and extent of the child's injuries; and if known, any evidence of previous injuries to the child and any other pertinent information that might establish the cause of the injury/injuries and the identity of the person or persons responsible for the injury.
<i>Timing/Other Procedures</i>	An oral report, either by telephone or direct communication, must be made immediately, followed by a written report.
<i>Other</i>	Any person who knowingly fails to make the required report shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a sentence of not more than six months' imprisonment or a fine of not more than \$500.
<i>Source/Applicable Statute(s)</i>	Child Abuse Reporting Act, Ala. Code §§ 26-14-1 <i>et seq.</i> (2009).

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