

Alaska Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Elders/Disabled

<p><i>Who Must Report?</i></p>	<p>Physicians or other licensed health care providers; Mental health professionals, including marital and family therapists; Pharmacists; Administrators of nursing homes or residential care or health care facilities; Guardians or conservators; Police officers; Village public safety officers; Village health aides; Social workers; Members of the clergy; Staff employees of a project funded by the Department of Administration for the provision of services to older Alaskans, the Department of Health and Social Services, or the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Employees of a personal care or home health aide program; Emergency medical technicians or mobile intensive care paramedics; Caregivers of the vulnerable adult; and Certified nurse aides.</p>
<p><i>Standard of Knowledge</i></p>	<p>“[R]easonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult suffers from abandonment, exploitation, abuse, neglect, or self-neglect.”</p>
<p><i>Definition of Applicable Victim</i></p>	<p>A “vulnerable adult” is anyone “18 years of age or older who, because of physical or mental impairment, is unable to meet the person’s own needs or to seek help without assistance.”</p>
<p><i>Reports Made To</i></p>	<p>Reports should be made to the Department of Health and Social Services’s central information and referral service for vulnerable adults. If the person making the report cannot reasonably contact the Department and immediate action is necessary to protect the vulnerable adult from imminent risk of serious physical harm due to abandonment, exploitation, abuse, neglect, or self-neglect, the reporting person may make the report to a police officer or a village public safety officer, who will take appropriate action and notify the Department.</p>
<p><i>Contents of Report</i></p>	<p>The report should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name and address of the vulnerable adult; • information relating to the nature and extent of the abandonment, exploitation, abuse, neglect, or self-neglect; and • other information that the reporting person believes might be helpful in an investigation of the case or in providing protection for the vulnerable adult.



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	The report may also include the name and address of the reporting person.
<i>Timing/Other Procedures</i>	The report must be made not later than 24 hours after first having cause for the belief of abuse.
<i>Other</i>	A person who should have had reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult suffers from abandonment, exploitation, abuse, neglect, or self-neglect but who knowingly fails to comply with this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
<i>Source/Applicable Statute(s)</i>	Alaska Stat. §§ 47.24.010, .900.

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