



Florida Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Elders/Disabled	
<i>Who Must Report?</i>	“Any person”
<i>Standard of Knowledge</i>	Knowledge or has reasonable cause to suspect that a vulnerable adult has been or is being abused, neglected, or exploited
<i>Definition of Applicable Victim</i>	A “vulnerable adult” is “a person 18 years of age or older whose ability to perform the normal activities of daily living or to provide for his or her own care or protection is impaired due to a mental, emotional, long-term physical, or developmental disability or dysfunctioning, or brain damage, or the infirmities of aging.”
<i>Reports Made To</i>	Reports shall be made to the central abuse hotline on the single statewide toll-free telephone number.
<i>Contents of Report</i>	Report must include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, age, race, sex, physical description, and location of each victim alleged to have been abused, neglected, or exploited; • Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the victim’s family members; • Name, address, and telephone number of each alleged perpetrator; • Name, address, and telephone number of the caregiver of the victim, if different from the alleged perpetrator; • Name, address, and telephone number of the person reporting the alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation; • Description of the physical or psychological injuries sustained; • Actions taken by the reporter, if any, such as notification of the criminal justice agency; and • Any other information available to the reporting person which may establish the cause of abuse, neglect, or exploitation that occurred or is occurring.
<i>Timing/Other Procedures</i>	Reports shall be made immediately.
<i>Other</i>	Any person required to report who fails to do so commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.
<i>Source/Applicable Statute(s)</i>	Adult Protective Services Act, Fla. Stat. §§ 415.101 <i>et seq.</i>

©2007. For reprint permission, please contact Evelyn Fortier at evelynf@rainn.org. Last updated: October 2007.

RAINN (Rape Abuse and Incest National Network) provides general information that is intended, but not guaranteed, to be correct and up-to-date. The information is not presented as a source of legal advice. You should not rely, for legal advice, on statements or representations made by RAINN. If you need legal advice upon which you intend to rely in the course of your legal affairs, consult a competent, independent attorney. RAINN does not assume any responsibility for actions or non-actions taken by people who have used this information, and no one shall be entitled to a claim for detrimental reliance on any information provided or expressed. RAINN does not endorse, guarantee or warranty the accuracy, reliability or thoroughness of any referenced information, product or service.