Alabama Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Children

| Who Must Report? | 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. |

| Standard of Knowledge | Knowledge or suspicion that a child is a victim of abuse or neglect. |

| Definition of Applicable Victim | Child means a person under the age of 18. |

| Reports Made To | Reports should be made to a “duly constituted authority,” which includes:  
|                 | 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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<th>Contents of Report</th>
<th>A duly constituted authority shall not include an agency involved in the acts or omissions of the reported child abuse or neglect.</th>
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<td>Timing/Other Procedures</td>
<td>An oral report, either by telephone or direct communication, must be made immediately, followed by a written report.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>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.</td>
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**Source/Applicable Statute(s)**