

**CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS****CONTACTING THE SEQUOIA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

The Boy Scouts of America require immediate notification of the Scout Executive whenever information about possible child abuse in the Boy Scout program is uncovered. **Please call 559 320-2100 or 559-732-3424.** After-hours please call the CEO/Scout Executive John Richers in Fresno at **559-709-7929.** The Scout Executive will ensure that all state reporting requirements have been met and will also take measures to protect the youth in the Scouting movement.

If an immediate report is to be made due to extreme urgency, a contact to the Child Protective Services (CPS) should be made: **Fresno County CPS: 559-255-8320; Madera County CPS: 559-675-7829 or 800-801-3999; Kings County CPS: 559-582-8776; and Tulare County CPS: 559-730-2677 or 800-331-1585.** The Council should also be contacted by leaving a message at either 559-320-2100 or 59-732-3424 or 559-709-7929. Use this form to report Scouting Child Abuse IN FRESNO, KINGS, MADERA AND TULARE COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA.

The law indicates any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse or acts of child abuse shall report this information immediately to the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS).

From 9:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays, reports of child abuse and neglect can be made to the local DYFS district office. There is at least one district office in every county. The Office of Child Abuse Control (OCAC) operates a toll-free, 24-hour, seven-day-a-week hotline - Child Protective Services - (**Fresno County CPS: 559-255-8320; Madera County CPS: 559-675-7829 or 800-801-3999; Kings County CPS: 559-582-8776; and Tulare County CPS: 559-730-2677 or 800-331-1585.**) to receive reports of child abuse and neglect. Calls received at OCAC during normal working hours are immediately referred to the appropriate district office, and calls received after hours are referred to the Special Response Unit (SPRU).

DYFS accepts all allegations of child abuse and neglect by telephone and in person from all sources, including identified sources, news media, anonymous sources, sources that have incomplete information, and referrals from the child or parent themselves.

Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, a DYFS caseworker shall investigate the allegations and take such action as is necessary to ensure the safety of the child.

**IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY** Any person who, pursuant to the law, reports abuse and neglect or testifies in a child abuse hearing resulting from such a report is immune from any criminal or civil liability as a result of such action.

**PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT** Any person who knowingly fails to report suspected abuse or neglect pursuant to the law or to comply with the provisions of the law is subject to a fine up to \$1,000 or up to six months imprisonment, or both.

###