**Mandatory Reporting**

**Call to Report Abuse**

**All suspected child abuse and neglect must be reported to the 24-hour Division of Family Services (DFS) Child Abuse and Neglect Report line at 1-800-292-9582. You may also call any Law Enforcement Agency or 911, but not in lieu of contacting DFS. You are not required to provide proof. Anyone who makes a good faith report based on reasonable grounds is immune from prosecution.**

## Reporting Law: **Title 16 Del. C.**

## § 903 Reports Required

Any person, agency, organization or entity who knows or in good faith suspects child abuse or neglect shall make a report in accordance with § 904 of this title. For purposes of this section, "person" shall include, but shall not be limited to, any physician, any other person in the healing arts including any person licensed to render services in medicine, osteopathy or dentistry, any intern, resident, nurse, school employee, social worker, psychologist, medical examiner, hospital, health care institution, the Medical Society of Delaware or law-enforcement agency. In addition to and not in lieu of reporting to the Division of Family Services, any such person may also give oral or written notification of said knowledge or suspicion to any police officer who is in the presence of such person for the purpose of rendering assistance to the child in question or investigating the cause of the child's injuries or condition.

## § 904 Nature and content of report; to whom made

## Any report of child abuse or neglect required to be made under this chapter shall be made by contacting the Child Abuse and Neglect Report Line for the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. An immediate oral report shall be made by telephone or otherwise. Reports and the contents thereof including a written report, if requested, shall be made in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Division, or in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Division. No individual with knowledge of child abuse or neglect or knowledge that leads to a good faith suspicion of child abuse or neglect shall rely on another individual who has less direct knowledge to call the aforementioned Report Line.

## § 908 Immunity from Liability

Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a report pursuant to this chapter, performing a medical examination without the consent of those responsible for the care, custody and control of the child pursuant to §906 (b) (5) of this chapter or exercising emergency protective custody in compliance with 907 of this chapter shall have immunity from any liability civil or criminal that might otherwise exit and such immunity shall extent to participation in any judicial proceedings resulting from the above actions taken in good faith. This section shall not limit liability of any health care provider for personal injury claims due to medical negligence that occurs as a result of any examination performed pursuant to this §906 (b)3 of this Title.

## § 914 Penalty for violation

(a) Whoever violates § 903 of this title shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000 for the first violation, and not to exceed $50,000 for any subsequent violation.

(b) In any action brought under this section, if the court finds a violation, the court may award costs and attorneys' fees.

**Delaware Community Resources**

**Helplines**

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| **Delaware Helpline**211 | **Mobile Crisis (Adult Services)** 1-800-652-2929 (NCC)1-800-345-6785 (KC/SC) |
| **Child Priority Response Crisis Helpline**1-800-969-4357 (HELP) orText DE to 741741 | **Domestic Violence Hotline**NCC: (302) 762-6110KC/SC: (302) 422-8058 |
| **ContactLifeline Crisis Helpline (Sexual Assault)**NCC: (302) 761-9100KC/SC: 1-800-262-9800 | **National Center for Missing and Exploited****Children - CyberTipline**[www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com)1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) |
| **RAINN – National Sexual Assault Hotline**1-800-656-4673 (HOPE) | **Delaware Victim Services**1-800-VICTIM-1 |

**Healing Resources- Treatment Providers**

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| **Delaware Guidance - Children**NCC: (302) 652-3948KC: (302) 678-3020SC: (302) 645-5338 | **SOAR, Survivors of Abuse In Recovery** NCC: (302) 655-9049KC/SC: (302) 422-3811Lewes: (302) 645-4903 |
| **Jewish Family Services of Delaware** (302) 478-9411 | **La Esperanza Community Center** SC: (302) 854-9262 |

**Additional Resources**

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| --- | --- |
| **Children’s Advocacy Center of Delaware**NCC:(302) 651-4566KC: (302) 741-2123SC: (302) 854-0323[www.cacofde.org](http://www.cacofde.org) | **Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of****Children**Patty Dailey Lewis, Executive Director(302) 477-2018, patty@beaubidenfoundation.org[www.beaubidenfoundation.org](http://www.beaubidenfoundation.org) |
| **Prevent Child Abuse Delaware**[www.pcadelaware.org](http://www.pcadelaware.org) | **Darkness to Light**[www.D2L.org](http://www.D2L.org) |
| **Stop it Now**[www.stopitnow.com](http://www.stopitnow.com) | **Child Inc. – Runaway & Homeless Youth**(302) 762-6373 |
| For more information on the Delaware Initiative to train 55,000 Delaware adultsor to schedule additional training:stewards@beaubidenfoundation.org |