

ACT-13 OF 1997
Mandatory Abuse Report
Instruction Sheet

BACKGROUND AND PROCESS:

Act-13 of 1997 requires an employee or administrator of a facility who has reasonable cause to suspect that a recipient is a victim of abuse to immediately report the abuse. The effective date was December 10, 1997.

Employees and/or administrators who have reasonable cause to suspect that a recipient is a victim of any of the types of abuse described below shall immediately make an oral report to the Area Agency on Aging (AAA). In addition to reporting to the AAA, oral reports must be made to the Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA) and local law enforcement for suspected abuse involving sexual abuse, serious physical injury, serious bodily injury or if a death is suspicious.

Within 48 hours of making all oral reports, the employee or administrator shall make a written report (on forms prescribed by PDA as mandated by Act 13) to the AAA. The AAA will forward a copy of the written report to the Department of Aging within 48 hours for all reports involving sexual abuse (not including sexual harassment), serious physical injury, serious bodily injury and suspicious death.

NOTE: Sexual harassment is an abuse that requires reporting to the AAA; however, it is not sexual abuse that requires reporting to PDA and local law enforcement.

DEFINITIONS:

Act-13 mandates the following facilities to report: domiciliary care homes; home health care agencies; long-term care nursing facilities; older adult daily living centers; personal care homes. In addition, the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) has concluded that Act-13 reporting is applicable to all DPW-licensed and DPW-operated residential facilities for adults. The additional DPW facilities include: community residential rehabilitation services, 55 Pa. Code Ch. 5310; community homes for individuals with mental retardation, 55 Pa. Code 6400; family living homes, 55 Pa. Code Ch. 6500; ICFs/MR (private and state), 55 Pa. Code 6600; state mental hospitals and state nursing facilities.

Recipient: An individual who receives care, services or treatment in or from a facility. (regardless of age)

Abuse: The occurrence of one or more of the following acts: (1) the infliction of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation or punishment with resulting physical harm, pain or mental anguish; (2) the willful deprivation by a caretaker of goods or services which are necessary to maintain physical or mental health; (3) sexual harassment; and/or (4) sexual abuse which is intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing or attempting to cause rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault or incest.

Serious Bodily Injury: An injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a body member or organ.

Serious Physical Injury: An injury that causes a person severe pain or significantly impairs a person's physical functioning, either permanently or temporarily.

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Sexual Abuse: Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing or attempting to cause rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest.

Rape: A person commits rape when he or she engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant: (1)by forcible compulsion; (2)by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution; (3)who is unconscious or where the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the sexual intercourse is occurring; (4)where the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance; (5)who suffers from a mental disability which renders the complainant incapable of consent; (6)who is less than 13 years of age.

Statutory Sexual Assault: Except as provided under the definition of Rape, a person commits statutory sexual assault when that person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant under the age of 16 years and that person is four or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and the person are not married to each other.

Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse: A person commits involuntary deviate sexual intercourse when he or she engages in deviate sexual intercourse with a complainant: (1)by forcible compulsion [forcible compulsion includes but is not limited to compulsion resulting in another person's death, whether the death occurred before, during or after sexual intercourse]; (2)by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution; (3)who is unconscious or where the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the sexual intercourse is occurring; (4)where the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance; (5)who suffers from a mental disability which renders him or her incapable of consent; (6)who is less than 13 years or age, or (7)who is less than 16 years of age and the person is four or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and person are not married to each other.

Sexual Assault: Except as provided under the definitions relating to Rape and Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, a person commits sexual assault when that person engages in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with a complainant without the complainant's consent.

Aggravated Indecent Assault: Except as provided under the definitions relating to Rape, Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, and Sexual Assault, a person who engages in penetration, however slight, of the genitals or anus of a complainant with a part of the person's body for any purpose other than good faith medical hygienic or law enforcement procedures commits aggravated indecent assault if: (1)the person does so without the complainant's consent; (2)the person does so by forcible compulsion; (3)the person does so by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution; (4)the complainant is unconscious or the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the penetration is occurring; (5)the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purposes of preventing resistance; (6)the complainant suffers from a mental disability which renders him or her incapable of consent; (7)the complainant is less

than 13 years of age; or (8)the complainant is less than 16 years of age and the person is four or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and the person are not married to each other.

Indecent Assault: A person who has indecent contact with the complainant or causes the complainant to have indecent contact with the person commits indecent assault if: (1)the person does so without the complainant's consent; (2)the person does so by forcible compulsion; (3)the person does so by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution; (4)the complainant is unconscious or the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the indecent contact is occurring; (5)the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance; (6)the complainant suffers from a mental disability which renders him or her incapable of consent; (7)the complainant is less than 13 years of age; or (8)the complainant is less than 16 years of age and the person is four or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and the person are not married to each other.

Incest: A person commits incest if he or she knowingly marries or cohabits or has sexual intercourse with an ancestor or descendant, brother or sister of the whole or half blood or an uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of the whole blood. The relationships referred to include blood relationships without regard to legitimacy, and relationship of parent and child by adoption.