

**SAN MATEO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH**  
**DEPENDENT ADULT or ELDER ABUSE REPORTING**  
**AGREEMENT**

**Welfare and Institutions Code Section 15659** states any person who enters into employment on or after January 1, 1995, as a care custodian, health practitioner, or with an adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency, prior to commencing his or her employment and as a prerequisite to that employment shall sign a statement on a form, that shall be provided by the prospective employer, to the effect that he or she has knowledge of **W & I Code Section 15630**, and will comply with its provisions. The signed statement will be retained by the employer.

**Mandated Reporter:** Includes any person who has assumed full or intermittent responsibility for care or custody of an elder or dependent adult, whether or not that person receives compensation, including administrators, supervisors, and any licensed staff of a public or private facility that provides care or services for elder or dependent adults, or any elder or dependent adult care custodian, health practitioner, or employee of a county adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency. A care custodian means an administrator or an employee of public or private clinics or agencies, or persons providing care or services for elders or dependent adults, including members of the support staff and maintenance staff.

**Abuse of an elder (any person in California 65 years of age or older) or dependent adult:** Means any of the following: physical abuse including sexual assault, neglect, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation, abduction, or other treatment with resulting physical harm or pain or mental suffering, or the deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering.

**Reporting:**

- A mandated reporter must report when:
  - in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be physical abuse, abandonment, isolation, financial abuse or neglect or
  - is told by an elder or dependent adult that he or she has experienced any of the above behaviors, or reasonably suspects that any of the above have occurred.
- A mandated reporter must report by both telephone immediately or as soon as possible and in writing within two working days to the appropriate agency, (**See MH Policy 01-03 for reporting guidelines**).

I am aware that W & I Code Section 15630 states failure to report suspected assault, abuse or neglect of an elder or dependent adult as stated in the codes is a misdemeanor punishable by not more than six months in a county jail or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by both that fine and imprisonment. I am also aware that any mandated reporter who willfully fails to report such an act where the abuse/assault/neglect results in the death or great bodily injury of the elder or dependent adult is punishable by not more than one year in a county jail or by a fine of not more than five thousand (\$5,000) or by both that fine and imprisonment.

I am aware that I am a mandated reporter, have knowledge of the provisions in W & I Code Section 15659 and will comply with my reporting obligations. I understand that this signed statement will be maintained in my personnel file.

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Print Name

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Position/Classification

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Signature

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Date