



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

October 2002

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The Archdiocesan Child Abuse Policy is an effort to ensure the safety of children entrusted to our care. This policy has been revised so that it is in full compliance with the American Bishops' ***Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People***. Other changes reflect suggestions from pastors, principals, civil authorities and others for the improvement of our policy.

The policy continues to focus on the protection of children and the prevention of child abuse. New features include:

- > The appointment of a Child Protection Officer to assist parishes and schools in implementing the Child Abuse Policy and developing "safe environment" programs;
- > Encouraging direct reporting of suspected child abuse to civil authorities; and
- > The designation of an in-house Assistance Coordinator to coordinate response in situations of reported child abuse.

The safety of children entrusted to our care and the healing of abuse survivors are important Church priorities. They are concerns I share with all Archdiocesan personnel. Please pray that we may be worthy of the continued trust of those we serve.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

Child Abuse Policy of the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

The following document reflects the policies and procedures of the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon with regard to child abuse. This document is based upon the teachings of the Catholic Church and its Code of Canon Law in addition to concepts of civil and criminal law. Nothing in this document is intended to create or confer any additional legal or civil rights.

INTRODUCTION

Child abuse is absolutely contrary to the Gospel values of care and concern that Jesus commands us to have for one another. Child abuse is contrary to all that the Catholic Church believes and professes about the dignity of human persons. Thus, it is the policy of the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon (“Archdiocese”) that child abuse of any kind is never to be tolerated.

With respect to allegations of child sexual abuse involving Archdiocesan personnel, the Archdiocese has been following *The Five Principles* established by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1992. These are:

1. Respond promptly to all allegations of abuse where there is reasonable belief that abuse has occurred;
2. If such an allegation is supported by sufficient evidence, relieve the alleged offender promptly of ministerial duties and make a referral for appropriate medical evaluation and intervention;
3. Comply with obligations of civil law to report the incident and cooperate with any investigation by civil authorities;
4. Reach out to victims and their families and communicate sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being; and
5. Within the confines of respect for privacy of the individuals involved, deal as openly as possible with the members of the community.

Besides *The Five Principles* which remain an essential part of this policy, the Archdiocese fully subscribes to the June 2002 American Bishops’ *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.

In stating the Archdiocese’s policy on child abuse, it is recognized that no policy of itself prevents abuse or harm. It is vigilance that prevents abuse and sees that no child, no one at all, is victimized by such sinful and hurtful behavior. The Archdiocese has promulgated this policy to focus and aid that vigilance.

Any protocols in this policy that are not already in place will be implemented with all due speed.

I. POLICY ON CHILD ABUSE

The Archdiocese renews its determination to provide a safe environment for the children and young people in its ministries and to assist Archdiocesan personnel in recognizing, reporting and attending to the needs of abused children and their families.

All Archdiocesan personnel shall maintain the integrity of the ministerial relationship at all times. Abusive conduct of any kind, including sexual conduct, between one who is performing duties on behalf of the Archdiocese and a minor, not only is criminal, but also violates that relationship and Catholic moral teaching. Such conduct is gravely sinful. It is never permissible.

Child abuse is a crime. Archdiocesan personnel shall report suspected child abuse to civil authorities in accordance with the procedures in Section III below.

Persons with reasonable cause to suspect child abuse by any person acting on behalf of the Archdiocese – whether clergy or lay, employee or volunteer – are encouraged to report directly to civil authorities. The Archdiocese will cooperate fully with civil authorities in their investigation.

The response of the Archdiocese in cases of child abuse by any of its personnel must also address the pastoral needs of the victim, the well being of the community, and the assessment and treatment of the offender.

Care is to be taken that all involved will be treated in a manner that is consistent with the Gospel values of dignity, compassion, understanding, and justice, as well as those standards that are normative in the wider professional community. When an accusation is made, the rights of all persons involved must be protected. Prompt and incisive action is essential and non-negotiable.

In situations where an investigation under civil or canon law raises questions of an individual's fitness for continued ministry, the matter will be referred to the Ministry Review Board described in Section VI below.

II. EDUCATION AND PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

The Archdiocese is committed to preventing and fully addressing child abuse by any Archdiocesan personnel, and to recognizing and responding to signs of child abuse in the children it serves. The following evidence this commitment:

- A. Screening.** Any cleric or religious applying for or proposed for assignment to ministerial services in a church, school or other entity operated by the Archdiocese must complete an application process which conforms with the guidelines of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for such clerics and religious. All Archdiocesan personnel as defined in this policy must complete the Archdiocesan *Background Check Request* and *Authorization* forms and undergo a criminal background check through the Archdiocese's Human Resources Office. Further background checking (including fingerprinting) is conducted through the State of Oregon for various daycare and pre-kindergarten positions, teachers and administrators.

Ordinarily, this screening will be initiated on or before the beginning date of conditional employment or volunteer service.

- B. Education.** All Archdiocesan personnel whose ministerial duties regularly involve minors will be required to attend presentations or have other training dealing with the recognition of and reporting requirements for child abuse.
- C. School curriculum.** The Archdiocese includes in the curriculum of the elementary schools it operates, a component teaching children about safe touch, appropriate boundaries with adults, and other issues related to child physical and sexual abuse.
- D. Child Protection Officer.** A Child Protection Officer will be available to assist parishes and schools in implementing this *Child Abuse Policy* and developing "safe environment" programs.
- E. Distribution of policy statement.** This policy statement will be distributed to all Archdiocesan employees. It will also be available to all interested parties on the Archdiocesan website (www.archdpx.org) and from the Child Protection Officer (503-416-8810). A basic summary will be widely available.

III. REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

The term "child abuse" may refer to the physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse or exploitation, mental injury, or threat of harm to a minor. Child abuse of any kind is a violation of state law. Some Church personnel (e.g., school personnel and clergy) are mandatory reporters under Oregon law and must report suspected abuse to civil authorities. (See Appendix A, ORS 419B.005 and ORS 419B.010.)

A. Reporting by Archdiocesan personnel.

Mandatory Reporters. Clergy, school employees, registered or certified child care providers and other mandatory reporters are required by law to report (or cause to be reported) suspected child abuse to the Department of Human Services ("DHS")

or to a law enforcement agency. (See Appendix B for local telephone numbers for reporting child abuse.) The Archdiocese expects all mandatory reporters to fulfill this legal obligation.

If such a report has been made and the suspected abuser is Archdiocesan personnel, the Vicar General should be informed.

There is a special situation with the clergy-penitent privilege. A priest or deacon is not required to report information he acquires in a privileged conversation. Further, the sacramental seal of confession is inviolable. A priest is absolutely prohibited from revealing, in words or in any manner for any reason, information acquired from a sacramental confession. This confidentiality is recognized under Oregon law. (See Appendix A, ORS 419B.010(1); ORS 40.260(3).)

Nonetheless, clergy are encouraged not to accept confidential communications concerning child abuse outside of a sacramental confession.

Voluntary Reporters. The Archdiocese encourages its personnel who are not mandatory reporters voluntarily to report suspected child abuse when they have reasonable grounds to do so. Such reports should be made to the Department of Human Services (“DHS”) or to a law enforcement agency. (See Appendix B for local telephone numbers for reporting child abuse.)

Moreover, though not required by law, it is the policy of the Archdiocese that any employee of the Archdiocese – whether mandatory or voluntary reporter – who has reasonable cause to believe that child abuse has been committed by any Archdiocesan personnel shall report the suspected abuse to civil authorities. After the report has been made, the Vicar General should be informed.

Questions on Child Abuse Reporting

Archdiocesan personnel are encouraged to call a DHS Child Abuse Hotline with questions concerning the reporting of child abuse. DHS is available for consultation as well as reporting. (See Appendix B for local telephone numbers.)

Exception: Clergy with questions about child abuse reporting that involve clergy-penitent privilege should call the Vicar for Clergy or, in his absence, the Vicar General.

B. Reporting by members of the public.

Present abuse. Anyone who has reasonable cause to believe that child abuse involving Archdiocesan personnel is a present concern should report the suspected abuse directly to civil authorities. Archdiocesan personnel shall encourage such direct reporting.

Past abuse. The Archdiocese seeks to promote healing and reconciliation for those who have suffered abuse by Archdiocesan personnel in the past. When the abuse is not reportable under Oregon law, such persons are encouraged to contact the Archdiocese's Assistance Coordinator at (503) 416-8810. The Archdiocese will provide pastoral or other assistance when appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

The Archdiocese encourages direct reporting of child abuse. Nonetheless, if it should receive information providing reasonable grounds to believe that child abuse may have been committed by Archdiocesan personnel, the Archdiocese will report this to civil authorities in all cases in which a report is required under Oregon law.

IV. RESPONSE TO CHILD ABUSE REPORT

A sacred relationship exists between the Catholic Church and its members, whether they are children or adults. Child abuse of any kind and certainly child sexual abuse are matters of gravest concern. Knowledge of such abuse calls for a special response so that the safety of the child and the community is assured and healing can take place.

The first response must always be immediate and direct reporting to the proper civil authorities. The next response should be assistance to bring healing and pastoral care wherever that is possible. With this in mind, the Archdiocese of Portland has designated a special Assistance Coordinator to coordinate response in situations of reported sexual abuse of minors by Archdiocesan personnel.

When the Archdiocese is informed of allegations of child abuse by any of its personnel, the Archdiocese must address the needs and rights of all involved – the person alleging abuse, the accused, and the parish/school community affected. The Assistance Coordinator will respond promptly to persons who contact the Archdiocese concerning child abuse and will offer to meet with the caller. If it appears that the report concerns present abuse by any Archdiocesan personnel, the caller will be encouraged to report the suspected abuse directly to civil authorities. As appropriate, the Assistance Coordinator will offer whatever outreach will best promote the healing and reconciliation of the person reporting abuse. This outreach may include professional counseling, spiritual assistance or other services.

After this call/meeting, the Assistance Coordinator will contact designated Archdiocesan officials to review the information provided by the caller. If the allegation is subject to

reporting under ORS 419B.010, and the caller has not already done so, the Archdiocese will make a report to an appropriate authority under that statute. The Assistance Coordinator will inform the complainant that a report was made to civil authorities.

The Archdiocese will cooperate fully with civil authorities in their investigation of the charges. To ensure that there will be no interference or perceived interference in the investigation by civil authorities, no further internal investigation will take place while that investigation is pending, except what may be required for compliance with canon law.

Unless civil authorities request otherwise, if this has not already occurred, the accused individual also will be informed of the allegation by the Archbishop or his delegate and will be given every opportunity to respond to the charges.

In the case of a cleric, member of a religious institute or holder of ecclesiastical office, ordinarily the Archbishop will place the person accused on administrative leave and will encourage an outside professional assessment of the person accused. Should this be a cleric, canon law will be followed. (These three categories of persons are singled out because of their unique relationship to the bishop or superior and because they are subject in a particular way to canon law. Decisions regarding such individuals will be guided by procedures of canon law.)

An accused employee or volunteer who is not a cleric, member of a religious institute or holder of ecclesiastical office ordinarily will be placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the internal and/or civil investigation or will be terminated. Archdiocesan officials will coordinate with the accused individual's supervisor on this decision.

When allegations of child abuse have been made and the Archdiocese is providing outreach to persons affected, the Assistance Coordinator will keep in contact with the individual (or the parent or guardian of a minor), and his or her family, if appropriate. Psychological counseling and/or pastoral care may be offered in the spirit of Christian justice and charity. When counseling is paid for by the Archdiocese, the therapist must be authorized by the Archdiocese. Whenever possible, the therapist will be one who specializes in the treatment of victims of child abuse.

Within the confines of respect for the privacy and the reputations of the individuals involved, the Archdiocese will deal as openly as possible with members of the community, providing assistance and support to communities directly affected by alleged ministerial misconduct with minors.

Since the need to protect children who may be at risk and the safety of the community is always paramount, the Archbishop, at his discretion and according to the norms of civil and canon law, may take further action when there has been an allegation of child abuse to ensure that safety, considering also the rights and reputation of the person accused.

V. POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF CHILD ABUSE REPORT

There are three possible outcomes of the civil and/or internal investigation and assessment process:

1. The allegation may be substantiated or found credible either through the admission or lack of denial of the perpetrator or through the investigation or the assessment process.
2. The allegation may be unsubstantiated, disproved or found not credible.
3. The evidence supporting the allegation may be inconclusive to support a finding either way.

1. Allegation substantiated. If an allegation of child abuse is substantiated or found credible, the person accused will have been reported to a governmental authority and is subject to the sanctions of criminal and/or civil law. When any cleric, member of religious institute or holder of ecclesiastical office is found guilty under secular law of child abuse (or when it appears that an allegation of child abuse against such a person is true), the Archbishop shall proceed according to the norm of canon law. An offending priest or deacon will be permanently removed from ministry.

When any employee or volunteer of the Archdiocese who is not a cleric, member of a religious institute or holder of ecclesiastical office is found guilty of child abuse (or when it appears that an allegation of child abuse against such a person is true), the individual will be terminated from employment, volunteer service, or any other position of responsibility within the Archdiocese, if termination has not earlier occurred.

Additionally, when an allegation of child abuse is substantiated or appears to be true, the following applies. In all possible cases, the offender should be responsible for paying the costs of the victim's therapy. In some instances, the Archdiocese may pay for the therapy, and the offender will reimburse the Archdiocese.

The Assistance Coordinator will inform the parties regarding the outcome of the investigation. Arrangements for the ongoing psychological and pastoral care of the victim may be made.

2. Allegation unsubstantiated. If an allegation of child abuse is unsubstantiated, disproved, or found not credible, the Assistance Coordinator will inform the parties of the outcome of the investigation. If necessary, continued efforts will be made to maintain the good name of the accused and provide for his or her well-being. If there are any future steps that can be taken to assure a return to normal relationships in the parish, school, or entity involved, the Assistance Coordinator will consider these steps.

3. Evidence inconclusive. If the evidence is inconclusive as to the validity of an allegation of child abuse, or it is determined that the conduct complained of does not constitute child abuse, two factors must be balanced. First, the safety and well being of the alleged victim and the community must be protected. Second, the rights of the accused must be considered.

Based on the charge and the nature of the evidence, lay employees or volunteers may be placed on corrective action or terminated under the personnel policies of the Archdiocese in effect at that time. Clerics may be issued a warning as understood in canon law. It lies within the prudential judgment of the Archbishop or his delegate to require psychological evaluation and treatment of the person accused. The Assistance Coordinator will also inform the parties of the outcome of the investigation and may make efforts to minimize the impact on the alleged victim and the community. In these cases, the Assistance Coordinator may refer the alleged victim for follow-up pastoral care and psychological counseling, as appropriate.

Whenever the investigation under civil or canon law raises questions of the continued fitness for ministry of a priest or deacon, the matter will be referred to the Ministry Review Board for further review and recommendation to the Archbishop.

VI. ENSURING POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

To ensure the full implementation of this *Child Abuse Policy* and to provide a vehicle for accountability, the following will be in place.

1. Parish/School coordinator. Each church and school will designate one person to coordinate and ensure implementation of the policies and procedures required by this policy (e.g., background checks, training for personnel, etc.). The pastor or principal, if not the designated person, is ultimately responsible for child abuse policy matters at the parish/school.
2. Child Protection Officer. The Archbishop will appoint a Child Protection Officer to assist parishes and schools in implementing the *Child Abuse Policy* and developing “safe environment” programs. The Child Protection Officer may also serve as Assistance Coordinator.
3. Ministry Review Board. The Archdiocese will establish a Ministry Review Board. The Ministry Review Board will assist the Archbishop in assessing allegations and fitness for ministry, and will regularly review Archdiocesan policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors. The Ministry Review Board may also advise the Archbishop on other related matters, at his request.

VII. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy statement, the following terms have the meaning indicated:

Archbishop means the Archbishop of Portland in Oregon. For purposes of this document, references to the Archbishop assume that in his absence the Vicar General (or in his absence the Vicar for Clergy) has the necessary authority.

Archdiocese means the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, including the churches, schools, cemeteries and other entities it owns and operates. The term Archdiocese does not include entities operated by religious orders or other Catholic organizations, corporations, associations or persons.

Archdiocesan personnel means all seminarians, clerics (priests and deacons), members of religious orders, lay employees and volunteers who have direct personal contact with minors, insofar as they are performing ministerial or other duties at a parish, school or other entity of the Archdiocese.

Assistance Coordinator means an individual designated by the Archbishop to receive and coordinate the handling of allegations of child abuse by Archdiocesan personnel.

Child means an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age. (See Appendix A, ORS 419B.005(2).)

Child abuse includes all conduct involving a child which constitutes “abuse” under Oregon law. (See Appendix A, ORS 419B.005(1).)

Child Protection Officer means the person designated by the Archbishop to assist parishes and schools in implementing this *Child Abuse Policy* and developing “safe environment” programs.

The Archbishop retains the right at all times to modify this protocol on a case-by-case basis in order to respond to specific situations and issues which may require an alternate response, with due respect for the requirements of civil and canon law.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

Selected Oregon Statutes

40.260 Member of clergy-penitent privilege. (1) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) "**Confidential communication**" means a communication made privately and not intended for further disclosure except to other persons present in furtherance of the purpose of the communication.

(b) "**Member of the clergy**" means a minister of any church, religious denomination or organization or accredited Christian Science practitioner who in the course of the discipline or practice of that church, denomination or organization is authorized or accustomed to hearing confidential communications and, under the discipline or tenets of that church, denomination or organization, has a duty to keep such communications secret.

(2) A member of the clergy may not be examined as to any confidential communication made to the member of the clergy in the member's professional character unless consent to the disclosure of the confidential communication is given by the person who made the communication.

(3) Even though the person who made the communication has given consent to the disclosure, a member of the clergy may not be examined as to any confidential communication made to the member in the member's professional character if, under the discipline or tenets of the member's church, denomination or organization, the member has an absolute duty to keep the communication confidential. [1981 c.892 s.35; 1999 c.7 s.1]

Note: Section 2, chapter 7, Oregon Laws 1999, provides:

Sec. 2. The amendments to ORS 40.260 by section 1 of this 1999 Act apply to all confidential communications made to a member of the clergy, whether made before, on or after the effective date of this 1999 Act [October 23, 1999]. [1999 c.7 s.2]

419B.007 Policy. The Legislative Assembly finds that for the purpose of facilitating the use of protective social services to prevent further abuse, safeguard and enhance the welfare of abused children, and preserve family life when consistent with the protection of the child by stabilizing the family and improving parental capacity, it is necessary and in the public interest to require mandatory reports and investigations of abuse of children and to encourage voluntary reports.

419B.005 Definitions. As used in ORS 418.747, 418.748, 418.749 and 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1)(a) "**Abuse**" means:

(A) Any physical injury to a child that has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury that appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

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(B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment of the child's mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due regard to the culture of the child.

(C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest, as those acts are defined in ORS chapter 163, or an attempt to commit one of those acts against a child.

(D) Sexual abuse, as defined in ORS chapter 163, or an attempt to commit sexual abuse.

(E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

(i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any other conduct which allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other exhibition which, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 167.002 or described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not including any conduct which is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or which is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

(ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution, as defined in ORS chapter 167.

(F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care. However, any child who is under care or treatment solely by spiritual means pursuant to the religious beliefs or practices of the child or the child's parent or guardian shall not, for this reason alone, be considered a neglected or maltreated child under this section.

(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare.

(H) Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537, or attempting to buy or sell a person under 18 years of age.

(b) "**Abuse**" does not include:

(A) Reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection; or

(B) Injury caused by reasonable physical contact between children occurring during sports activities or play.

(2) "**Child**" means an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age.

(3) "**Law enforcement agency**" means:

(a) A city or municipal police department.

(b) A county sheriff's office.

(c) The Oregon State Police

(d) A county juvenile department.

(4) "**Public or private official**" means:

(a) Physician, including any intern or resident.

(b) Dentist.

(c) School employee.

- (d) Licensed practical nurse or registered nurse.
- (e) Employee of the Department of Human Resources, State Commission on Children and Families, Child Care Division of the Employment Department, the Oregon Youth Authority, a county health department, a community mental health and developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a licensed child-caring agency or an alcohol and drug treatment program.
- (f) A police officer or a reserve officer, as those terms are defined in ORS 181.610, who is employed on a full-time or part-time basis and who is not a volunteer.
- (g) Psychologist.
- (h) Clergyman.
- (i) Licensed clinical social worker.
- (j) Optometrist.
- (k) Chiropractor.
- (L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.
- (m) Attorney.
- (n) Naturopathic physician.
- (o) Licensed professional counselor.
- (p) Licensed marriage and family therapist.
- (q) Firefighter, as defined in ORS 237.610, or emergency medical technician.
- (r) A court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
- (s) A child care provider registered or certified under ORS 657A.030 and 657A.250 to 657A.450.

(5) "State agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 192.005.

419B.010 Duty of officials to report child abuse; exceptions; penalty. (1) Any public or private official having reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom the official comes in contact has suffered abuse or that any person with whom the official comes in contact has abused a child shall immediately report or cause a report to be made in the manner required in ORS 419B.015. Nothing contained in ORS 40.225 to 40.295 shall affect the duty to report imposed by this section, except that a psychiatrist, psychologist, clergyman or attorney shall not be required to report such information communicated by a person if the communication is privileged under ORS 40.225 to 40.295. An attorney is not required to make a report under this section by reason of information communicated to the attorney in the course of representing a client, if disclosure of the information would be detrimental to the client.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a report need not be made under this section if the public or private official acquires information relating to abuse by reason of a report made under this section, or by reason of a proceeding arising out of a report made under this section, and the public or private official reasonably believes that the information is already known by a law enforcement agency or the State Offices for Services to Children and Families.

(3) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a violation punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000. Prosecution under this subsection shall be commenced at any time within 18 months after commission of the offense.

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419B.015 Report form and content; notice to law enforcement agencies and local office of State Office for Services to Children and Families. A person making a report of child abuse, whether voluntarily or pursuant to ORS 419B.010, shall make an oral report by telephone or otherwise to the local office of the State Office for Services to Children and Families, to the designee of the State Office for Services to Children and Families or to a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is located at the time of the contact. Such reports shall contain, if known, the names and addresses of the child and the parents of the child or other persons responsible for care of the child, the child's age, the nature and extent of the abuse, including any evidence of previous abuse, the explanation given for the abuse and any other information which the person making the report believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse and the identity of the perpetrator. When a report is received by the State Office for Services to Children and Families, the State Office for Services to Children and Families shall immediately notify a law enforcement agency within the county where the report was made. When a report is received by a designee of the State Office for Services to Children and Families, the designee shall notify, according to the contract, either the State Office for Services to Children and Families or a law enforcement agency within the county where the report was made. When a report is received by a law enforcement agency, the agency shall immediately notify the local office of the State Office for Services to Children and Families within the county where the report was made. [1993 c.546 s.15; 1993 c.734 s.1a]

419B.025 Immunity of person making report in good faith. Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a report of child abuse and who has reasonable grounds for the making thereof shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of such report. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participating in any judicial proceeding resulting from such report.

419B.040 Certain privileges not grounds for excluding evidence in court proceedings on child abuse. (1) In the case of abuse of a child, the privileges created in ORS 40.230 to 40.255, including the psychotherapist-patient privilege, the physician-patient privilege, the privileges extended to nurses, to staff members of schools and to registered clinical social workers and the husband-wife privilege, shall not be a ground for excluding evidence regarding a child's abuse, or the cause thereof, in any judicial proceeding resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050.

(2) In any judicial proceedings resulting from a report made pursuant to ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050, either spouse shall be a competent and compellable witness against the other.

**COUNTYWIDE DAYTIME AND AFTERHOURS NUMBERS
FOR REPORTING CHILD ABUSE**

County (Seat)	Daytime Number	After-hours
Benton (Corvallis)	541-757-5019 1-866-303-4643	541-766-6911 – Sheriff
Clackamas (Oregon City)	1-866-303-4643	503-731-3100 503-655-8218 – Sheriff
Clatsop (Astoria)	1-877-302-0077	503-325-2061 – Sheriff 503-325-8635
Columbia (St. Helens)	1-877-302-0077	503-366-4611 – Sheriff
Coos	541-756-5500 1-800-500-2730	541-756-5500
Curry (Gold Beach)	541-756-5500 1-800-500-2730	541-756-5500
Douglas (Roseburg)	541-440-3373 1-800-305-2903	541-430-5706
Jackson (Medford)	541-776-6120 1-866-840-2741	541-858-3197 – Hotline 1-866-840-2741 – Hotline
Josephine (Grants Pass)	541-776-6120 541-474-3120	541-858-3197 – Hotline 1-866-840-2741 – Hotline
Lane (Eugene/Springfield)	541-686-7555 1-866-300-2782	541-682-4150 – Sheriff
Lincoln (Newport)	541-757-5019 1-866-303-4643	541-265-4231 – Sheriff
Linn (Albany)	541-757-5019 1-866-303-4643	541-967-3911 – Sheriff
Marion (Salem)	503-378-6704 – Hotline 1-800-854-3508	503-588-5321 – Detention 503-566-6991 – Sheriff
Multnomah (Portland)	503-731-3100 – Hotline 1-800-509-5439	503-731-3100
Polk (Dallas)	503-378-6704 – Hotline 1-800-854-3508	503-623-9251 – Sheriff
Tillamook (Tillamook)	1-877-302-0077	503-842-2561 – Sheriff
Washington (Hillsboro)	503-681-6917 1-800-275-8952	1-888-455-9090
Yamhill (McMinnville)	503-472-4634 1-800-822-3903	503-434-7506 – Sheriff 1-800-735-2900 – TTY
NW Human Services (Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill Counties)	503-581-5535 503-588-5833 – TTY	503-581-5535 503-588-5833 – TTY

