

***THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT***  
***OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT***

**STEPS FOR REPORTING SUSPECTED ABUSE OF A MINOR OR  
VULNERABLE ADULT**

*All Members of the Clergy, Seminarians, Religious Sisters and Brothers, Lay employees, Volunteers and Independent contractors are required to make a report to the Diocese and to Civil authorities of any suspicion of sexual abuse, other forms of child abuse, elder abuse, abuse of a vulnerable adult, risk of injury or knowledge of someone in possession of child pornography.*

If you have actual knowledge of or have reasonable cause to suspect abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult, or any allegation of abuse or misconduct involving a member of the Clergy, Seminarian, Religious Sister or Brother, Lay Employee, Lay Volunteer or Independent Contractor of the Diocese of Bridgeport, (whether the incident occurred recently or in the past) report that information **immediately** to:

**Erin Neil, L.C.S.W., Director of Safe Environment & Victim Assistance Coordinator**  
**Office: (203) 416-1406 Cell: (203) 650-3265 [eneil@diobpt.org](mailto:eneil@diobpt.org).**

**or**

**Michael Tintrup, L.C.S.W., Victim Assistance Counselor (203) 241-0987**

**AND**

**The CT Department of Children and Family (D.C.F.) Child Abuse and Neglect Care-line  
within (12- Hours) of first becoming aware.**

**1-800-842-2288**

For a report involving a vulnerable adult, call Protective Services for the Elderly at the Department of Social Services

**1-888-385-4225.**

After business hours or on weekends or state holidays, please call Info-line at **2-1-1**

. If you would like to report a situation in which abuse or neglect is suspected concerning an individual with an intellectual disability between the ages of 18 and 59, please call **1-844-878-8923**

Mandated Reporters are required by law to report directly to D.C.F. or to the Police any suspicion of abuse of a minor, risk of injury to a minor, child pornography, exploitation or neglect. This document is in addition to CT mandated reporting guidelines. ***As of Oct. 2015, mandated reporters who fail to report suspected abuse of a minor or risk of injury within 12-hours of becoming aware, will be reported to the Chief State's Attorney and may be charged with a felony. Third party information is reportable to D.C.F. and proof is not a requirement for reporting.*** All information will be handled with a high level of confidentiality however full anonymity cannot be guaranteed in cases involving abuse of a minor. Mandated Reporters must complete a written report within 48-hours <http://www.ct.gov/dcf/lib/dcf/policy/pdf/dcf-136-Fillable.pdf>

**WARNING SIGNS:** If you have any concern about the safety of a child or if you have observed an early warning sign of inappropriate conduct or a violation of the Safe Environment Policies, please call the Safe Environment Office with what you know.

**THE STATE OF CT MANDATED REPORTING ONLINE TRAINING & CERTIFICATE (40 minutes)**

<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/cwp/view.asp?a=3483&Q=413540>