



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

REGIONAL CENTER

15400 Sherman Way, Suite 170 • Van Nuys, CA 91406-4211
Main Number (818) 778-1900 • Fax (818) 756-6130

May 21, 2013

Dear Service Providers:

The Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act creates various procedures for reporting of elder and dependent adult abuse. The Act requires mandated reporters to report abuse and neglect to specific investigative agencies, within specific timelines. The Act was amended by California Legislature in 2012 to ensure cross-reporting amongst various investigative agencies.

Effective January 1, 2013, the State Legislature amended the statute, adding “serious bodily injury”, to the definition section of the Elder and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (W&I 15600 et seq) and, requiring Long Term Care providers to initially report suspected or alleged incidents of physical abuse, resulting in serious bodily injury, to law enforcement (See Welfare and Institution Code section 15610.67). Providers are also required to submit a written report of the incident to the local ombudsman, the corresponding licensing agency, and the local law enforcement agency within two hours of the mandated reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse.

If the suspected abuse does not result in serious bodily injury, a telephone report shall be made to the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours, and a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman, the corresponding licensing agency, and the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of the mandated reporter observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting the physical abuse.

The reporting requirements for other types of abuse noted in the Act remain the same.

To learn more about the new statutory amendments, please visit the North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) website at www.nlacrc.org, select the “service providers” link, then “laws and regulations”. Additionally, there are PowerPoint presentations posted on the Department of Aging’s website (<http://www.aging.ca.gov/>) related to the new abuse reporting requirements for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE), for review.

Should you have any questions regarding the new statutory requirements for abuse reporting, please contact Adult Protective Services (APS) at (213) 351-5401 and your corresponding licensing agency.

Sincerely,

Joan Watson-Patko
Community Services Director