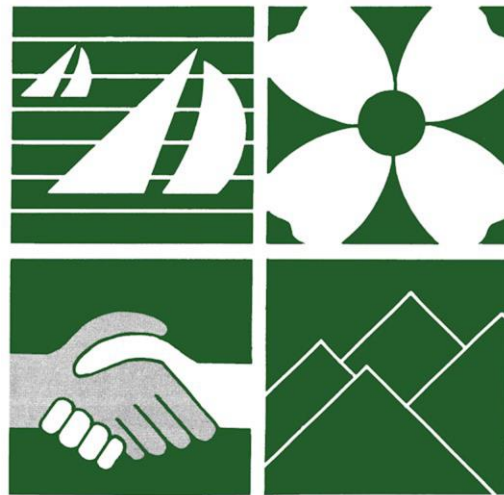


Mandated Reporter Webinar

December 5, 2012



**Virginia
Recreation
and Park Society**
www.VRPS.com

Purpose of our Training Today

- The “Mandated Reporters” law has changed; how does that affect your work?
- What can you do to respond to these changes?
- Where can you get additional help?

Today is not about providing you
with legal advise



Why was the law changed?

Penn State ... Bills introduced to respond:

HB 3 (*R Marshall*), HB 4 (*R Marshall*), **HB 74** (*Ri Bell*), HB 215 (*Miller*), **HB 970** (*Ro Bell*), **HB 1237** (*E Scott*), HB 1266 (*Watts*)

SB 239 (*Stuart*), SB 265 (*Ebbin*), SB 296 (*Puller*), SB 303 (*Howell*), SB 622 (*Petersen*)

VRPS was Actively Involved

- Identified impacts (pro and con)
- Worked with patrons and sub-committee members
- Recommended revisions on your behalf – specifically, now applies to adults

Mandated Reporters



Code of Virginia § 63.2-1509

Persons who, in their professional or official capacity:

- Have reason to suspect child is abused or neglected; and
- Report immediately, to the local department where the child lives or abuse occurred, or to the VDSS toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline.

Mandated Reporters



Code of Virginia § 63.2-1509

Persons who, in their professional or official capacity:

- **Must disclose all the information that is the basis of the report to the local department including any records or reports documenting the basis of the allegation.**
- **Reporters are immune from liability unless bad faith or malicious intent is proven**

Mandated Reporters include:

- Medical professionals such as doctors, nurses, interns, emergency medical responders
- Social workers, probation officers, eligibility workers, CASA, mental health providers, mediators
- Teachers, child care providers
- Law enforcement, animal control officers
- Staff in residential centers or group homes





Effective 7/1/12

New Mandated reporters

Individuals associated with, employed by or who volunteer with a:

- Public organization responsible for the care, custody or control of children;
- Private sports organization or team;
- Public/private day camps, youth centers, youth recreation programs;
- Public/private institutions of higher learning

From the law ...

- 11. Any person *18 years of age or older* associated with or employed by any public or private organization responsible for the care, custody or control of children;
- 16. Any athletic coach, director or other person *18 years of age or older* employed by or volunteering with a private sports organization or team;

Other elements of the law

17. Administrators or employees 18 years of age or older of public or private day camps, youth centers and youth recreation programs; and

13. Any adult who is trained. (not new)

“Isn’t everyone essentially a ‘mandated reporter’ now?” the Senator asked.

Anyone exempt?

“... (A)ny regular minister, priest, rabbi, imam, or duly accredited practitioner of any religious organization or denomination usually referred to as a church as it relates to (i) information required by the doctrine of the religious organization or denomination to be kept in a confidential manner or (ii) information that would be subject to §8.01-400 or 19.2-271.3 if offered as evidence in court.”

Other changes:



- Mandated reporters are required to report as soon as possible, but no later than **24** hours
- Mandatory reporters are not required to make a report if they have ***actual*** knowledge that the same matter has already been reported

Other changes:



- Increased penalty for second failure to report
- In cases of rape, sodomy, or object sexual penetration, a person who fails to make the required report shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Mandated Reporter Training

CWS 5692: Mandated Reporters: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect – Online Generic course for mandated reporters:



http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/mandated_reporters/cws5692/CWS5692%204.30.12.htm

What to do if you suspect a child is being abused/neglected:

- **Contact the Local Department of Social Services where the child lives**

OR...

- **Call the VDSS toll-free CPS Hotline:**

**1- 800-
552- 7096**

