

## 454 CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

Any district employee having reasonable cause to suspect that a child seen in the course of professional duties has been physically, mentally or sexually abused, or neglected or that threatened future abuse or neglect will occur shall immediately contact the county human services department, the county sheriff or the city police and inform the agency contacted of the facts and circumstances which lead to the filing of the report.

All employees shall receive training, approved by the Department of Public Instruction, in identifying children who have been abused and neglected, and in the laws and procedures under s.48.981 governing the reporting of suspected or threatened child abuse and neglect. A school district employee shall receive this training within the first six months of employment and at least once every five years after the initial training.

It is not the responsibility of school personnel to prove that the child has been abused or neglected, nor to determine whether the child is in need of protection. School personnel shall not contact the child's family or any other person to determine the cause of the threats of injury, suspected abuse or neglect.

School personnel filing reports in good faith are immune from liability and may not be discharged from employment, disciplined, or otherwise discriminated against in regard to employment, or threatened with such treatment for doing so. Failure to report may be punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.00 or six months in jail or both. All reports and records shall be confidential.

LEGAL REF.:           Sections    48.02 Wisconsin Statutes  
  48.98  
  118.07(5)

APPROVED:           August 9, 1976

REVISED:            December 11, 1978  
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