

Reporting Child Abuse
Edison State College
Public Safety

Mandatory Reports

- Effective October 1, 2012 Florida statutes changes the definition of mandatory reports of Child Abuse
- Prior to October 1st reports were required for abuse by a parent, guardian, caregiver or other person responsible for a child's care

Mandatory Reports

New subsection:
Any person who knows, or who has reasonable cause to suspect, that a child is abused by an adult...shall report such knowledge or suspicion to the department

Defintions

“Child abuse” means:

1. Intentional infliction of physical or mental injury upon a child;
2. An intentional act that could reasonably be expected to result in physical or mental injury to a child; or
3. Active encouragement of any person to commit an act that results or could reasonably be expected to result in physical or mental injury to a child.

“Mental injury” means injury to the intellectual or psychological capacity of a child as evidenced by a discernible and substantial impairment in the ability of the child to function within the normal range of performance and behavior as supported by expert testimony.

Failure to Report

For the College administrators or law enforcement agency to knowingly and willfully, upon receiving information from faculty, staff, or other institution employees, fail to report known or suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect committed on the property of the college, or during an event or function sponsored by the college, or who knowingly and willfully prevent another person from doing so, shall be subject to fines of \$1 million for each such failure.

Reporting to DCF

- The Department of Public Safety will report cases to the Florida Department of Children & Families Abuse Hotline
