Mandatory Reporting

In 2010, New Jersey’s APS law (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-406 to 426) was amended to require health care professionals, law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics or emergency medical technicians who have reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult is the subject of abuse, neglect or exploitation to report that information to the county Adult Protection Services office.

IT’S THE LAW.

Adults retain all their civil and constitutional rights unless some of those rights have been restricted by court action.

What is Adult Protective Services?

Adult Protective Services (APS) programs have been established in each county in New Jersey to receive and investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults living in a community setting.

The Purpose of APS:
Stabilize a crisis situation using the least intrusive methods while respecting an individual’s right to self-determination.

APS CASES

APS may become involved in situations that meet all of these conditions:

A vulnerable adult is:

✓ Age 18 years or older, AND
✓ Residing in the community, AND
✓ Due to physical or mental illness, disability or deficiency, lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make, communicate, or carry out decisions concerning his or her well-being, AND
✓ Is the subject of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

A community setting is:

✓ A private residence, OR
✓ Any non-institutional setting not licensed by, operated by, or under contract with, a State department or agency.

Making a Referral to APS:

The referral should be made by the person with first-hand information about the client.

The referral should be made directly to the county in which the client resides.

The referral should consist of as much information as possible, including:

✓ Client’s name, address, phone number
✓ DOB and Social Security number
✓ Diagnoses – health and/or mental health issues
✓ Family members/support systems (services/agencies involved)
✓ A specific allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation

CONFIDENTIALITY

All records and communications pertaining to any report, evaluation or service provided pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act (P.L. 1993, Ch. 249, C52:27D) are confidential.

APS is only permitted to share the results of an APS assessment when directed to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction or when disclosure of information is necessary for the Division or the APS provider to perform its responsibilities as set forth by statute.

Limits to Assistance

An APS worker is not authorized to:

✗ remove a vulnerable adult from his or her home without a court order.
✗ force an adult with capacity to accept services.
✗ move an individual to an alternate living situation without his/her agreement or a legal representative’s agreement.

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IT’S THE LAW.
Atlantic
Atlantic County Division
of Intergenerational Services
Shoreview Building
101 South Shore Road
Northfield, NJ 08225
Phone: 888-426-9243
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.atlantic-county.org

Bergen
Bergen County Board of Social Services
218 Route 17 North
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662
Phone: 201-368-4300
After Hours: 1-800-624-0275
www.bcbss.com

Burlington
Burlington County Board of Social Services
795 Woodlane Road
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
Phone: 609-518-4793
After Hours: 856-234-8888
www.bcbss.org

Camden
Camden County Board of Social Services
600 Market Street
Camden, NJ 08102
Phone: 856-225-8178
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.co.camden.nj.us/depts/socialsocserv.htm

Cape May
Cape May Division on Aging and Disability Services
4005 Route 9 South
Rio Grande, NJ 08242
Phone: 609-886-2784, ask for Intake Social Worker
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.fcsmonmouth.org

Middlesex
Family and Children’s Services
191 Bath Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740
Phone: 732-745-3635
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.fcsmonmouth.org

Monmouth
Family and Children’s Services
191 Bath Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740
Phone: 732-531-9191
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.fcsmonmouth.org

Essex
FOCUS, Hispanic Center for Human Dev., Inc.
441-443 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 866-903-6287
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

Gloucester
Gloucester County Division of Social Services
400 Holly Dell Drive
Sewell, NJ 08080
Phone: 856-582-9200
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

Hudson
Hudson County Adult Protective Services, Inc.
6100 Adams Street
West New York, NJ 07093
Phone: 201-537-5631
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

Hunterdon
Hunterdon County Division of Social Work Services
P.O. Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900
Phone: 908-788-1300
After Hours: 908-782-4357
www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/depts/social/socserv.htm

Mercer
Mercer County Board of Social Services
200 Woolverton Street
Trenton, NJ 08650
Phone: 609-989-4346
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.mcboss.org

Somerset
Somerset County Board of Social Services
73 East High Street
P.O. Box 936
Somerville, NJ 08876
Phone: 973-383-3600
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.socialservices.co.somerset.nj.us/aps.htm

Sussex
Sussex County Division of Social Services
83 Spring Street, Suite 203
P.O. Box 218
Newton, NJ 07860
Phone: 908-497-3902
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

Union
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark (CCAN)
505 South Avenue E
Cranford, NJ 07016
Phone: 908-497-3902
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

Warren
Warren County Division of Aging and Disability Services
165 County Route 519 South
Belvidere, NJ 07823
Phone: 908-475-6591
After Hours: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency
www.seniorservices.co.warren.nj.us

For additional information:
NJ Department of Human Services ● Division of Aging Services ● PO Box 812, Trenton, NJ 08625-0812
Phone: 609-588-6501 ● Emergency or After Hours: 911 or local police
www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/services/aps