

**CERTIFICATION OF AWARENESS OF CHILD ABUSE REPORTING LAW—(P.C. 11166)
VOLUNTEER STAFF FORM**

Definitions: The following are reportable conditions:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Child exploitation, child pornography and child prostitution
- Neglect
- Extreme corporal punishment resulting in injury
- Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment

Who Reports: The following individuals are legally mandated reporters:

Child care custodians (“...certified pupil personnel employee of any public or private school; and administrators and employees of public or private youth centers, youth recreation programs, and youth organizations who have been trained in the duties imposed by this article...”)

- Health practitioners
- Commercial film or photographic print processors in specified instances
- Child Protective Agencies

When to Report: A telephone report must be made immediately when the reporter observes a child in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment and has knowledge of, or has reasonable suspicion that the child has been abused. A written report, on a standard form, must be sent within 36 hours after the telephone report has been made.

To Whom Do You Report: In San Diego County, reports should be called in to the Child Protective Services Hotline. In San Diego County, call (858) 560-2191. In Imperial Valley, call (800) 344-6000. Commercial film or photographic processors report only to law enforcement.

Individual Responsibility: Any individual who is named in the reporting law must report abuse. If the individual confers with a superior and a decision is made that the superior file the report, one report is sufficient. However if the superior disagrees, the individual with the original suspicion must report.

Anonymous Reporting: Mandated reporters are required to give their names. Non-mandated reporters may report anonymously. Child protective agencies are required to keep the mandated reporter’s name confidential, unless a court orders the information disclosed.

Immunity: Any legally mandated reporter has immunity when making a report. In the event a civil suit is filed against the reporter, reimbursement for fees incurred in the suit will occur up to \$50,000. No individual can be dismissed, disciplined or harassed for making a report of suspected child abuse.

Liability: Legally mandated reporters can be criminally liable for failing to report suspected abuse. The penalty for this misdemeanor is up to six months in county jail, a fine of not more than \$1,000 or both. Mandated reporters can also be civilly liable for failure to report.

Notification Regarding Abuse: You are not legally required to notify the parents that you are making a report; however, it is often beneficial to let the parents know you are reporting for benefit of a future relationship.

I have received and reviewed the above summary of reporting requirements under Penal Code §11166 as well as a copy of diocesan policies regarding the reporting of child abuse. I understand the law and policies and am willing to comply with the requirements of my position.

Name _____ Witness (Supervisor) _____

Date _____