



Rogers Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures

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PURPOSE

Uniformed members of the department, by virtue of their position in public service, are recognized by the State of Arkansas as a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse or neglect. They are also mandated to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of endangered or impaired adults. This policy is to ensure personnel follow proper procedures of notification in cases of suspected child abuse. This policy also provides direction in cases of suspected adult abuse.

POLICY

Suspected Child Abuse

Personnel shall report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect to the Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-482-5964. Prior to contacting the hotline, the member may complete RFD Form 64 as it consolidates information that will be requested by the Hotline. Members should also submit an unusual occurrence form and notify their Battalion Chief and the Captain / EMS Program Manager.

If a report is not accepted by the Hotline worker, the reporting member may request to report to a Hotline Supervisor. The member should submit an unusual occurrence form and contact their Battalion Chief and Captain / EMS Program Manager.

If the report is not accepted by the Hotline Supervisor, the member should submit an unusual circumstance report and contact their Battalion Chief and Captain / EMS Program Manager and make the report to them. The Battalion Chief and Captain / EMS Program Manager will consult with Fire Administration, which will determine if any further action may be necessary.

Reports that are accepted by the Hotline may result in police investigation. Members are expected to cooperate with any subsequent investigation.

If the case of suspected abuse or neglect is the result of a call for service, the PCR should include documentation of the licensed care provider's (paramedic and EMT) physical and environmental findings and observation.

Suspected Adult Abuse

In all cases of suspected adult abuse or neglect, personnel shall make a report to the Arkansas Adult Protective Services Hotline at 1-800-482-8049.

When occurring at a long-term care facility, personnel shall report cases of suspected adult abuse or neglect to the police agency having jurisdiction, usually this will be the Rogers Police Department.

Members should also submit an unusual occurrence form and notify their Battalion Chief and the Captain / EMS Program Manager.