

Child Abuse Reporting Requirements

Any reports of child abuse are to be referred immediately to both listed below:

1. Contact the Choctaw Area Council Scout executive – James Hulgan

Work phone: 601-693-6757 Cell phone: 423-443-9181

2. Contact the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services – 1-800-222-8000

Abuse Hotline 1-800-222-8000 Lauderdale County 601-484-5124

> Boy Scouts of America Procedures for Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

In the event of an actual or suspected child abuse situation that involves a member of the Scouting movement, please follow these simple procedures:

A. When a child discloses abuse:

- 1. Don't panic or overreact to the information disclosed by the child.
- 2. Don't criticize the child or claim that the child misunderstood what happened.
- 3. Do respect the child's privacy and take the child to a place where the two of you can talk without interruptions or distractions.
- 4. Do reassure the child that he or she is not to blame for what happened. Tell the child that you appreciate being told about it and that you will help make sure it will not happen again.
- 5. Gather all the available information in a <u>confidential</u> manner and use the attached form to be sure you have enough of the appropriate details. Please do not conduct an investigation, just put on paper what you heard and know about.
- 6. Contact the Choctaw Area Council and talk with the Scout Executive, James Hulgan.
- B. <u>If the suspected child abuse is reported through other adult leaders or they suspect child abuse</u>:
 - 1. Follow items No. 5 and No. 6 and forward the child abuse reporting form to the Scout office immediately.

Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Form

The following information was provided to:	
Name of person	Position
Address_	Telephone
Name of suspected abuser	
Address	
Scouting position (if known)	
Child's name	Date of Birth
Address_	
Parent's name	Telephone
Address	
Physical indicators observed	
Behavioral indicators observed/known	
Other indicators observed/known	
Reporter's name & position	
Date of report	_ Signature

For after-hours emergency assistance, contact James Hulgan, Scout Executive, at 423-443-9181