DUTY TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OF A RESIDENT OR SUSPICION OF A CRIME AGAINST A RESIDENT OF THIS FACILITY

IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A RESIDENT HAS BEEN OR IS LIKELY TO BE ABUSED, NEGLECTED, exploited, or in imminent danger of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, or if you suspect the Resident is the victim of a crime, report the incident to the Police Department of the City or County in which the Facility is located. The report must be made as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours. If serious bodily injury resulted, as follows:

FAILURE TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION MAY RESULT IN CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LIABILITY. OR IF YOU SUSPECT A CRIME HAS BEEN COMMITTED, YOU SHALL REPORT THE CRIME TO THE LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY, BUT NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS. REPORTS OF DEATH MUST BE MADE TO SLED WITHIN 24 HOURS.

Each nursing care facility and intermediate care facility operated or maintained for residents by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health or the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, is required to display this notice prominently for the benefit of its residents, staff and the families of residents according to the South Carolina Code of Laws §44-50-50.

VIOLATIONS OF RESIDENT'S RIGHTS

Violations of residents' rights, elements of care or quality of living should be reported to the

Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman
1-800-774-9000

The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging
1-800-259-0400

The State of South Carolina
1-800-259-0400

Columbia, SC 29201

FAX: 1-803-734-6000
NOTICE

DUTY TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OF A RESIDENT OR SUSPICION OF A CRIME AGAINST A RESIDENT OF THIS FACILITY

IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A RESIDENT HAS BEEN OR IS LIKELY TO BE ABUSED, NEGLECTED, OR EXPLOITED OR IF YOU SUSPECT THAT A CRIME MAY HAVE OCCURRED, YOU MUST REPORT THE INCIDENT IMMEDIATELY BUT NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS (AND NO LATER THAN 2 HOURS IF SERIOUS BODY INJURY RESULTED) AS FOLLOWS:

- SLED VAU 24-HOUR TOLL-FREE NUMBER 1-866-200-6066
- DSS ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES INVESTIGATES NON-CRIMINAL REPORTS OF ALLEGED ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS OCCURRING IN ALL SETTINGS (IN COMMUNITY) OTHER THAN THOSE FACILITIES FOR WHICH THE LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM IS RESPONSIBLE.

- S.C. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE INVESTIGATES ALL FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASES IN FACILITIES AND EDUCATES AND PROSECUTES ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION AT NURSING HOMES AND COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES.

- LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATES ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION IN CONTRACTED FACILITIES SLED CAN ASSIST IF REQUESTED.

- S.C. LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN INVESTIGATES NON-CRIMINAL REPORTS OF ALLEGED ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION TO INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO STANDARDS OF CARE AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES OCCURRING IN FACILITIES.

FAILURE TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION MAY RESULT IN CRIMINAL CHARGES. FAILURE TO REPORT SOME OTHER CRIMES AGAINST A RESIDENT OF THE FACILITY, REPORTS OF DEATH MUST BE MADE TO SLED WITHIN 24 HOURS.

Each nursing care facility and intermediate care facility operated or contracted for through the State Long Term Care Ombudsman must alert the Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman for prompt notification of any report of abuse, neglect, or exploitation or any death.

VIOLATIONS OF RESIDENT'S RIGHTS

Violations of resident's right standards of care or quality of living issues must be reported to:

Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman 1-803-734-6000
The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging G-30
1201 Gervais Street, Suite 380
Columbia, SC 29201
Abuse of a Vulnerable Adult 43-35-85(B)

- Elements: Knowingly and willfully abuse a vulnerable adult (Hitting, punching, etc.)

- Punishment: Up to 5 years

- Classification: Felony

Neglect of Vulnerable Adult 43-35-85(C)

- Elements: Knowingly and willfully neglects a vulnerable adult

- Punishment: Up to 5 years

- Classification: Felony
Abuses or Neglects a Vulnerable Adult resulting in Great Bodily Injury 43-35-85(E)

- Elements: Knowingly and Wilfully abuses or neglects (Injuries that require medical treatment that may involve emergency room treatment or surgery.)
- Punishment: Up to 15 years
- Classification: Felony

Abuses and Neglects a Vulnerable Adult resulting in Death 43-35-85(F)

- Elements: Knowingly and Wilfully abuses or neglects.
- Punishment: Up to 30 years
- Classification: Felony
- **Exploitation of Vulnerable Adult 43-35-85(D)**

  - Elements: Knowingly and Wilfully exploits a vulnerable adult
  
  - Punishment: Up to 5 years

  - Classification: Felony

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**Failure to Report 43-35-85 (A)**

- Elements: Mandatory reporter under 43-35-25 and with actual knowledge that abuse has occurred.

  - Punishment: **Up to 1 year in jail or fine up to $2,500**

  - Classification: Misdemeanor
Our goal is to investigate or assist in the investigation of those persons who are unable to defend for themselves and to make South Carolina a safer and healthier place for vulnerable adults.

We thank you for your assistance and support for this most noteworthy endeavor.
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
Vulnerable Adult Investigative Unit
803-896-7654
or
Hot-line 1-866-200-6066

- NOTICE -

DUTY TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION
OF A RESIDENT OR SUSPICION OF A CRIME AGAINST A
RESIDENT OF THIS FACILITY

IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A RESIDENT HAS BEEN OR IS LIKELY
TO BE ABUSED, NEGLECTED, OR EXPLOITED OR IF YOU SUSPECT THAT A
RESIDENT HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF ANY OTHER CRIME, YOU MUST REPORT
IT IMMEDIATELY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO REPORT THE SUSPICION OR INCIDENT
WITHIN 24 HOURS. IF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY RESULTED AS FOLLOWING:

FAILURE TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION MAY RESULT IN
CRIMINAL CHARGES. FAILURE TO REPORT SOME OTHER CRIME AGAINST A
RESIDENT MAY RESULT IN SANCTIONS AGAINST THE EMPLOYEE AND THE
FACILITY.

Each nursing care facility is required to display this notice prominently for the
benefit of residents, staff, and families in accordance with law. Nursing care
facilities operated or contracted for operation by the South Carolina Department of
Health and Environmental Control or the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs must

VIOLATIONS OF RESIDENTS' RIGHTS
Violations of residents' rights, standards of care or quality of living issues must be
reported to the State Long Term Care Ombudsman:
Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman 1-866-734-8804
1361 Garvin Street, Suite 380
Columbia, SC 29201
FAX: 803-734-8856

Office of the State Ombudsman 1-888-555-5123
1361 Garvin Street, Suite 380
Columbia, SC 29201
FAX: 803-734-8856