



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
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Protection of Minors

Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA)

Presented by:

Risk Management

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Duration: 11 minutes

What is CANRA?

The [California Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act \(CANRA\)](#): CA mandate that was passed in 1980 to provide definitions and procedures for mandated reporting of child abuse. Over the years, numerous amendments have expanded the definition of child abuse and the persons required to report.

Purpose of Child Abuse Reporting Laws:

- Protection of minors from abuse and neglect.
- Prevent psychological harm to minors.

Reportable Child Abuse and Neglect Definition

Child abuse and neglect includes, but not limited to

- Physical injury inflicted by other than accidental means,
- Sexual abuse or exploitation,
- Willful endangerment,
- Unlawful corporal punishment, and
- Other maltreatment.

For any additional information about child abuse, please visit the [CANRA Penal Code](#)

“Child” defined

- **USF:** Any person under the age of eighteen (18) who is *not* enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate University program.
- **CANRA:** No exception for an emancipated minor.

Mandated Reporters

Under CANRA, Mandated Reporters have a legal responsibility to report known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect.

- **Reporters are those whose duties bring them in contact with minors on a regular basis.**
- **Reporters can include employees such as:**
 - Faculty
 - Academic Personnel
 - Student Employee
 - Athletic coach or Assistant Coach
 - Supervisor of an employee whose duties require regular contact with a minor

“Reasonable Suspicion” defined

It is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on their training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.

Reporting Suspected Neglect and/or Abuse

Verbal Report *immediately* to any of the following:

- County Welfare Departments
- Local Law Enforcement
- Child Protective Services



Within 36 hours of a verbal report, a written report must be submitted to the agency that is investigating the incident.

- Suspected Child Abuse Report Form



Make an internal report to your supervisors through one of the following:

- University Whistleblower Hotline,
- Public Safety, or
- University officer

Information Needed for Reporting

Verbal Report:

- Tell them that you are a Mandated Reporter at USF.
- Tell them you are filing a report under the section Penal Code 11160.
- Record name of the person who took the report, report number, a fax number or email address, date, and time.

Do not share that you have made a report to any other than necessary individuals.

When a Child Discloses Abuse or Neglect

- **Provide a safe environment for the children**
- **Listen - Do not make assumptions**
- **Make no promises**
- **Document quotes**
- **Don't talk negatively about the family**
- **Don't show shock**

The Four Critical Questions

- **What happened?**
- **When did it happen?**
- **Where did it happen?**
- **Who did it?**

Failure to Report

USF Disciplinary Action may result in:

- Termination

Legal Action may result in:

- Misdemeanor or punishable by up to six months in jail
- A fine of \$1,000
- Or both

Acknowledgement of Reporting - Signature required

- The form must be signed acknowledging that the Mandate Reporter understands the responsibility of reporting, understands the process that must be completed if there is reasonable suspicion that abuse or neglect has happened, and acknowledging the consequences that could take place if there is a failure to report.
- [CANRA Acknowledgement to Report Child Abuse Form](#)

Important Phone Numbers

- **San Francisco CPS Hotline:** (415) 558-2650
- **San Francisco Sheriff Office:** (415) 554-7225
- **San Francisco Human Services Agency:**(800) 856-5553
- **University Whistleblower Hotline:** 1-800-316-4315
- **Public Safety:** (415) 422-4222

USF Contacts For Additional Information

Melissa Diaz, Director of Risk Management

- Tel: (415) 422-5899
- Email: mddiaz2@usfca.edu

Minors on Campus Policy

- <https://myusf.usfca.edu/risk/protect-minors>

USF CANRA Webpage

- <https://myusf.usfca.edu/risk/canra>