

Methodist Health Services Corporation UnityPoint Health- Proctor	Page # 1 of 3	Section:	Policy #: 23
	Approved by:		Date: 6/2017 Review by: 6/2018
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	Primary Responsible Parties: Dr. Ashley N. Huff Secondary Responsible Parties:		
	Joint Commission Standard:		
SUBJECT: REPORTING OF SUSPECTED CRIMES AND CRIME SCENE RESPONSIBILITIES			

I. POLICY:
Reporting of Suspected Crimes and Crime Scene Responsibilities

II. PURPOSE AND STANDARD:

III. POLICY SCOPE: Departmental

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION:

A. The First Responder, EMT-B, EMT-I, EMT-P, or Pre-hospital RN is required to report certain crimes when they become aware of these crimes or reasonably suspect that one of these crimes has occurred. In addition, the First Responder, EMT-B, EMT-I, EMT-P, or Pre-hospital RN must endeavor to provide optimum patient care while protecting evidence present at a crime scene.

1. In cases of suspected child abuse/neglect or elder abuse/neglect the EMS responder is required to report suspected crimes to certain agencies. The EMS responder is required to report to the appropriate agency in the following cases:

- a. **Suspected child abuse or neglect** -The EMS responder must report the suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) at **1-800-252-2873** and local law enforcement.
 - i. The [Manual for Mandated Reporters](#) is a good source for additional information regarding Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting.
 - ii. Online Training on recognizing and reporting Child Abuse and Neglect may be obtained at [Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse: Training for Mandated Reporters](#).
 - iii. ***Failure to report suspected Child Abuse or Child Neglect is a Class A misdemeanor for a first violation and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent violation. ([Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act](#))***
- b. **Suspected elderly abuse or neglect** -The EMS responder must report suspected elder abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of older persons

8. Give immediate care to the patient. Remember, your role is to provide emergency care.
9. Keep detailed records of the incident including your observations of the victim and the scene of the crime. In many felony cases, EMS personnel are called to testify since they were first on the scene, and lack of records about the case can be professionally embarrassing.
10. Once the police arrive you should leave or at least not hinder their work, however, you should give them any information you believe would be useful.