

Reporting suspected elder abuse

If you suspect that an elderly person that you know is a victim of abuse, you should report it to Elder Protective Services. If you are observing life-threatening abuse first call 911 or your local police, then file a report with the appropriate agency.

Elder Abuse includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse, caretaker neglect, financial exploitation or self-neglect of a person 60 years and over who lives in the community.

Anyone can file a report of suspected abuse by calling:

Massachusetts

Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) Elder Abuse Hotline # 1-800-922-2275

Rhode Island

Office of Healthy Aging (OHA) # 1-401-462-0555

(Note:all Rhode Islanders are mandated reporters)

New Hampshire

Bureau of Elderly & Adult Services (BEAS) # 1-603-271-7014 or toll Free from within NH at (800) 949-0470

Suspected elder abuse by Archdiocesan personnel or volunteers, while performing the work of the Boston Archdiocese must be reported to the diocese. Contact the Director of Professional Standards and Oversight at 617-746-5624.

Mandated Reporters

The state of Massachusetts includes the following in their list of mandated reporters of elder abuse:

Physicians; physician assistants; nurses; medical interns; coroners; dentists; podiatrists; osteopaths; social workers; occupational therapists; physical therapists; psychologists; family counselors; police; probation officers; EMTs; firefighters; director of a home health aide agency; homemaker agency; assisted living residence; case managers; health aides; homemakers; council on aging directors; outreach workers

* Employees and volunteers of the church are required to report suspected elder abuse to Elder Protective Services both by phone and in writing. You can also file your Massachusetts written report online here:

<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/report-elder-abuse>

Save a copy of the written report for your files and submit a copy to the Office of Child Advocacy. Fax #: 617-746-5989.

For questions or help reporting elder abuse, please contact the Office of Child Advocacy at 617-746-5995.