



### **CHILED ABUSE & NEGLECT MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (OCCL Reg. 19)**

**Delaware law *mandates*** any person, agency, organization or entity to make an immediate oral report to the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families, Division of Family Services, when they know of, or suspect, child abuse or neglect under Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the *Delaware Code* and to follow up with any requested written reports (**16 Del. C. §903**).

The persons and entities required to file these mandatory reports include, but are not be limited to: Physicians, Persons in the healing arts (such as dentists, interns or residents, nurses, social workers, and psychologists), School employees, Medical examiners, Hospitals or other health care institutions, Medical Society of Delaware, Law enforcement agencies.

**All suspected child abuse and neglect will be reported to the 24-hour Division of Family Services (DFS) Child Abuse and Neglect Report line at 1-800-292-9582. Law Enforcement Agencies or 911, may be contacted, but not in lieu of contacting DFS. Proof is not required prior to initiating a call. Anyone who makes a good faith report based on reasonable grounds is immune from prosecution.**