

Reporting Child Abuse:

Talia's Law

PUBLIC LAW 114–328—DEC. 23, 2016

Military Members' Responsibility to Report Child Abuse

If any individual within a service member's chain of command obtains any credible information (which may include a reasonable belief) that a child in the family or home of the service member has suffered an incident of child abuse they must report the abuse immediately to the Family Advocacy Program office at the military installation to which the service member is assigned.

Professionals Identified as Mandated Reporters

If a service member engaged in a profession or activity that would assign that person a mandated reporter role obtains information that gives reason to suspect that a child in the family or home of the service member has suffered an incident of child abuse, they must immediately report the incident to the Family Advocacy Program office at the military installation to which the service member is assigned.

Mandated reporters include:

- (1) Physicians, dentists, medical residents or interns, hospital personnel and administrators, nurses, health care practitioners, chiropractors, osteopaths, pharmacists, optometrists, podiatrists, emergency medical technicians, ambulance drivers, undertakers, coroners, medical examiners, alcohol or drug treatment personnel, and persons performing a healing role or practicing the healing arts.
- (2) Psychologists, psychiatrists, and mental health professionals.
- (3) Social workers, licensed or unlicensed marriage, family, and individual counselors.
- (4) Teachers, teacher's aides or assistants, school counselors and guidance personnel, school officials, and school administrators.
- (5) Child care workers and administrators.
- (6) Law enforcement personnel, probation officers, criminal prosecutors, and juvenile rehabilitation or detention facility employees.
- (7) Foster parents.
- (8) Commercial film and photo processors.

Additional Duties for Mandated Reporters

- Per direction identified under Talia's Law, mandated reporters are required to report all incidents of child abuse to the appropriate child welfare services agency and the appropriate FAP office.