

# **Elder Abuse Mandatory Reporting for Victim Service Providers**



#### Are you a mandatory reporter?

Review your statute to determine who must report abuse in your jurisdiction. Pay attention to the particular requirements. Be sure to inform the victim at the outset before the victim makes any disclosures—if you are a mandatory reporter.

No  $\rightarrow$ 



You may not

Yes ↓

#### Is the victim someone whose abuse must be reported?

Does the victim meet the age threshold in your statute (e.g., 55, 60 or 65) or definition of "vulnerable" or "at risk" adult?

 $No \rightarrow$ 

Yes ↓

Has the victim experienced "elder abuse" as your statute defines it?

 $No \rightarrow$ 

report the abuse or otherwise breach a victim's confidentiality without the victim's written and informed consent.

Yes ↓

## Are you exempt from reporting in this case?

For example, is the disclosure protected by a victim-advocate, therapist-patient, attorney-client, or other privilege that prohibits disclosure without victim consent?

 $Yes \rightarrow$ 

No J

### **Report Must Be Made**

Make the report to the appropriate agency. If there is a choice between agencies, discuss the options with the victim. Ensure you are reporting only what is required, and that you are complying with VAWA or other federal confidentiality requirements.

Absent victim consent, you may report only the information required by statute.

Remember to safety plan and offer the victim ongoing support!

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