

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
for the
Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America

CONTACTING THE COUNCIL

The Boy Scouts requires immediate notification of a Scout executive whenever information about possible child abuse in the Boy Scout program is uncovered. The current policy for after-hours notification is to wait until the next business day and call the Heart of America Council office at 816-942-9333.

If an immediate report is to be made due to extreme urgency, or if the child is in immediate danger, a contact should be made to the Office of Child Abuse Control or the local law enforcement authorities. In Missouri, the report should be made to the Child Abuse Hot-Line at 1-800-392-3738 and in Kansas; the Child Abuse Hot-Line is 1-800-922-5330. The council should be notified by contacting Mark J. Brayer at 816-590-2789.

The Scout executive will ensure that all state reporting requirements have been met and will also take measures to protect the youth in the Scouting movement.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE IN KANSAS AND MISSOURI

The law says any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse or acts of child abuse shall report this information immediately to the Division of Family Services in Missouri or the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services in Kansas.

These agencies accept all allegations of child abuse and neglect by telephone and in person from all sources, including identified sources, news media, anonymous sources, sources that have incomplete information, and direct referrals from a child or parent.

Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, a caseworker will investigate the allegations and take such actions as are necessary to ensure the safety of the child.

IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY

Any person who, pursuant to the law, reports abuse and neglect, or testifies in a child abuse hearing resulting from such a report, is immune from any criminal or civil liability as a result of such action.