

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNMENT BIT BY BIT

HELP! SITUATIONS: WHO TO CALL, WHAT TO DO

A compilation of contacts for a variety of situations in which a resident may need assistance or information from a government entity or other authority.

For Crisis intervention requiring law enforcement, fire or ambulance, dial 911

- Part 1: Victims of Abuse (domestic, criminal, sexual, child, elderly)
- Part 2: Fraud

PART ONE: VICTIMS OF ABUSE

CHILD ABUSE

If you see or suspect abuse, report it to the appropriate authorities.

- Dial 911
- Call the local or state law enforcement agency
- **CYBERTIPLINE** is a means for reporting certain online crimes against children. Reports may be made 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-800-843-5678.
Website: www.cybertipline.com
- **National Child Abuse Hotline** (800) 422-4453
- **Children's Helpline** (for foster children) and Out of Home Abuse and Neglect (OHAN) (800) 645-9789
- **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES STATE OFFICE OF CONSTITUENT SERVICES**
Call: (803) 898-7618 or (803) 898-4174
- **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COUNTY OFFICES**
Website: <https://dss.sc.gov/> (Has Contact Information for Individual County Offices)

ABUSE OF SENIORS, DISABLED OR VULNERABLE PERSONS, CIVIL RIGHTS

If you see or suspect abuse, report it to the appropriate authorities.

- Dial 911
- Call the local or state law enforcement agency
- If the alleged incident took place in a residential facility contracted with or operated by the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs or the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, then you need to report the incident directly to the **Vulnerable Adult division of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED)**. Their phone number is **1-866-200-6066**.
- If the alleged incident took place in a private facility, such as a private nursing home or a community residential care facility (often referred to as "assisted living" facilities), then you need to report the matter to the **South Carolina Long Term Care Ombudsman's Office**, Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging
<http://aging.sc.gov/contact/Pages/OmbudsmanRegionalContacts.aspx>. Their phone number is 1-800-868-9505.

- If the alleged incident took place in a foster home or a private residence, you should report the matter to the **South Carolina Department of Social Services**. You can either report it to your local county DSS office or to the central State office at (803) 898-7318. Contact information for local county DSS offices can be found at <https://dss.sc.gov/content/about/counties/index.aspx>.

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (SLED)

<http://www.sled.sc.gov/default.aspx?MenuID=Home>

- **Citizen Complaint Process** - <http://www.sled.sc.gov/ComplaintProcess.aspx?MenuID=GeneralInformation>
- **Amber Alert Information** - <http://www.sled.sc.gov/AMBERHome.aspx?MenuID=AmberAlert>
- **Sex Offender Registry** - http://www.communitynotification.com/cap_main.php?office=54575
- **Blue Alert Information** - <http://www.sled.sc.gov/BlueHome.aspx?MenuID=BlueAlert>
Contact SLED (803)896-7133, available 24/7.
- **Vulnerable Adult Investigations Unit** - <http://www.sled.sc.gov/Vulnerable.aspx?MenuID=VulAdult> 1-866-200-6066

LIEUTENANT'S OFFICE ON AGING <http://www.aging.sc.gov/>

- **Ombudsman offices (regional list)**
<http://aging.sc.gov/CONTACT/Pages/OmbudsmanRegionalContacts.aspx>

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

- **How to Report Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation by A Caregiver** - <http://ddsn.sc.gov/about/Documents/How%20To%20Report%20Abuse/Reporting%20Abuse.pdf>
- **Financial Exploitation Brochure** - http://ddsn.sc.gov/about/Documents/How%20To%20Report%20Abuse/Financial_Exploitation_Brochure%20070811-2_Final.pdf
- **Privacy Violations Complaints:** Website: <http://ddsn.sc.gov/Pages/YourRighttoPrivacy.aspx> Or, consumers may contact: DHHS – Office of Civil Rights: 200 Independence Avenue, S. W. Room 509F HHH Bldg. Washington, DC 20201
- **Civil Right Violations Complaints** - [http://www.ddsn.sc.gov/about/directives-standards/Documents/currentdirectives/700-02-DD%20\(Revised%20070110\).pdf](http://www.ddsn.sc.gov/about/directives-standards/Documents/currentdirectives/700-02-DD%20(Revised%20070110).pdf)

PART TWO: FRAUD

Definition: the crime of using dishonest methods to take something valuable from another person, a person who pretends to be what he or she is not in order to trick people, a copy of something that is meant to look like the real thing in order to trick people.

SOUTH CAROLINA INSPECTOR GENERAL

Website: <http://governor.sc.gov/Pages/ReportWasteandAbuse.aspx>

1-855-SC-FRAUD

1-855-723-7283

OIG@OIG.SC.GOV

INSURANCE FRAUD

SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INSURANCE FRAUD HOTLINE

Call 1-888-95-FRAUD

Website: <http://www.scag.gov/insurance-fraud>

Complaint form: http://www.scag.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/insurance_fraud_complaint_form.pdf

MEDICAID FRAUD

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Website: <http://www.scdhhs.gov/site-page/medicaid-fraud-costs-taxpayers-millions>

Medicaid Fraud Hotline Phone Number 1-888-364-3224

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MEDICAID MEDICAID FRAUD UNIT (Provider Fraud Or Patient Abuse)

Medicaid Fraud Unit Columbia: (803) 734-3660 or toll-free: 1-888-NO-CHEAT (1-888-662-4328) Website: <http://www.scag.gov/medicaid-fraud>

FINANCIAL FRAUD (NON-CLIENT)

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Website: <https://dss.sc.gov/content/about/contact-fraud.aspx>

Columbia: (803) 898-0172 Toll-Free: (800) 694-8518

J Dobson/E Sandberg 2014