

City, any police department, bureau or force of any incorporated municipality or the Maryland State Police.

7. "Abuse" shall mean any: (A) physical injury or injuries sustained by a child as a result of cruel or inhumane treatment or as a result of malicious act or acts by any parent, adoptive parent or other person who has the permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for supervision of a minor child[.] (B) [[WHETHER PHYSICAL INJURIES ARE SUSTAINED OR NOT, ANY SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD]] ANY SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD, WHETHER PHYSICAL INJURIES ARE SUSTAINED OR NOT.

8. "SEXUAL ABUSE" SHALL MEAN ANY ACT OR ACTS INVOLVING SEXUAL MOLESTATION OR EXPLOITATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INCEST, RAPE, CARNAL KNOWLEDGE, SODOMY OR [[OTHER PERVERTED SEXUAL ACTS OF]] UNNATURAL OR PERVERTED SEXUAL PRACTICES ON OF CHILD BY ANY PARENT, ADOPTIVE PARENT OR OTHER PERSON WHO HAS THE PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY CARE OR CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISION OF A MINOR CHILD.

(c) Every health practitioner, educator or social worker or law-enforcement officer, who contacts, examines, attends, or treats a child and who believes or has reason to believe that the child has been abused is required to make a report in the form and manner provided in the following subsection, notwithstanding any other section of the law relating to privileged communications; provided, however, that if the educator or social worker or law-enforcement officer or health practitioner examines, attends, or treats the child in the capacity of a member of the staff of a hospital, public health agency, child-care institution, juvenile detention center, school or similar institution, the health practitioner, educator or social worker or law-enforcement officer, shall also immediately notify and give all necessary information required by this section to the person or persons in charge of the institution or a designated representative thereof.

(d) Each such report made pursuant to the provisions of subsection [(e)] (C) shall be made to the agencies as provided for hereinafter, both orally and in written form; both the reports to be made as soon as is reasonably possible in the circumstances, but, in any case, the written report must be made within forty-eight (48) hours of the contact, examination, attention or treatment which disclosed the existence of possible abuse. The oral report shall be made either by telephone or direct communication to the local department of social services or to the appropriate law-enforcement agency. The agency to which the report is made shall immediately notify the other agency. Nothing however, shall prohibit