

[(1)] (I) Making a report under this section;

[(2)] (II) Participating in an investigation arising out of a report under this section; or

[(3)] (III) Participating in a judicial proceeding arising out of a report under this section.

(2) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT GRANT ANY IMMUNITY FOR AN ABUSER WHO MAKES A REPORT OR PARTICIPATES IN THE INVESTIGATION OR PROCEEDING.

19-347.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (i) "Abuse" means cruel or inhumane treatment that causes:

1. Any physical injury; or

2. Any neglect that is detrimental to physical or mental well-being; and

(ii) "Abuse" does not include the performance of an accepted medical procedure that a physician orders.

(3) "Law enforcement agency" means the Maryland State Police or a police agency of a county or municipal corporation.

(4) "Nursing home" means a related institution that is classified as a nursing home.

(b) (1) A person who believes that a resident of a nursing home has been abused promptly shall report the alleged abuse to an appropriate law enforcement agency and to the Secretary.

(2) A report:

(i) May be oral or written; and

(ii) Shall contain as much information as the reporter is able to provide.

(c) (1) The law enforcement agency shall:

(i) Investigate thoroughly each report of an alleged abuse; and

(ii) Attempt to insure the protection of the alleged victim.