

Section 5-905
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1984 Volume and 1986 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Family Law

5-905.

(a) (1) Promptly after receiving a report of suspected abuse, the local department or the appropriate law enforcement agency, as appropriate, or both, if jointly agreed on, shall make a thorough investigation to protect the welfare of the child or children.

(2) Within 24 hours after receiving the report of suspected abuse, the local department or the appropriate law enforcement agency shall:

(i) see the child;

(ii) attempt to have an on-site interview with the child's caretaker; and

(iii) decide on the safety of the child, wherever the child is, and of other children in the home.

(b) The investigation shall include:

(1) a determination of the nature, extent, and cause of the abuse, if any; and

(2) if the suspected abuse is verified:

(i) a determination of the identity of the person or persons responsible for the abuse;

(ii) a determination of the name, age, and condition of any other child in the same household;

(iii) an evaluation of the parents and the home environment; and

(iv) a determination of any other pertinent facts or matters.

(c) On request by the local department, the local State's Attorney shall assist in the investigation.