

(1) within 5 years after the date of referral if the investigation under § 5-706 of this subtitle concludes that the report is unsubstantiated, and no further reports of abuse or neglect are received during the 5 years; and

(2) within 120 days after the date of referral if the report is ruled out, and no further reports of abuse or neglect are received during the 120 days.

§5-714.

(a) The Social Services Administration and each local department may maintain a central registry of cases reported under this subtitle.

(b) The respective local departments throughout this State shall provide the information for ~~the~~ A central registry.

(c) The information in ~~the~~ A central registry shall be at the disposal of:

(1) the protective services staff of the Social Services Administration;

(2) the protective services staffs of local departments who are investigating a report of suspected abuse or neglect; and

(3) law enforcement personnel who are investigating a report of suspected abuse or neglect.‡

(D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, A CENTRAL REGISTRY MAY CONTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION RELATED TO AN INVESTIGATION OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT.

(2) A CENTRAL REGISTRY MAY NOT CONTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION RELATED TO AN INVESTIGATION OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT IF:

(I) ABUSE OR NEGLECT HAS BEEN RULED OUT; OR

(II) THE ABUSE OR NEGLECT FINDING HAS BEEN EXPUNGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-707(B)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT OR A LOCAL DEPARTMENT MAY IDENTIFY AN INDIVIDUAL AS RESPONSIBLE FOR ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN A CENTRAL REGISTRY ONLY IF THE INDIVIDUAL:

(I) HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF ANY CRIMINAL CHARGE ARISING OUT OF THE ALLEGED ABUSE OR NEGLECT; OR

(II) HAS BEEN FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR INDICATED ABUSE OR NEGLECT AND HAS:

1. UNSUCCESSFULLY APPEALED THE FINDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED UNDER § 5-706.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR