

**VIRGINIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

<b><i>TITLE: Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect</i></b>	<b>Policy Number: S004</b>
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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Per Code of Virginia § 22.1-291.3 and § 63.2-1509

All employees of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind are considered mandatory reporters of any suspected child abuse and/or neglect. Any staff member of VSDB who has reason to suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child, including any child who may be abandoned, is required to report such suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to their immediate supervisor, a guidance counselor, student support staff, or the Superintendent who will contact local or state social services agencies or the person in charge of the relevant school or his designee. All persons required to report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect are immune from civil or criminal liability or administrative penalty or sanction on account of such reports unless such person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.

Below are the contact numbers for the Virginia Department of Social Services toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline:

- In Virginia: (800) 552-7096
- Out-of-state: (804) 786-8536

<b><i>Rescission:</i></b> November 2010; Revised: November 2017 BOV Approved: May 11, 2018
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