



Blue Ridge Council, Boy Scouts of America CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CONTACTING THE BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL

The BSA requires immediate notification of the council Scout executive whenever information about possible child abuse in the Boy Scout program is uncovered. Call the Scout Service Center in Greenville at (864) 233-8363 or (800) 277-2724 to make a report. For after-hours notification, wait until the next business day and call the Scout executive.

The Scout executive will ensure that all state reporting requirements have been met and will also take measures to protect the youth in the Scouting movement.

If an immediate report is to be made due to extreme urgency, contact the S.C. Department of Social Services at one of the numbers below. If it is an emergency you may call law enforcement by dialing 911. The council Scout executive should still be contacted at the above number, and a message should be left on the Council Service Center answering machine if it is after hours.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The law says any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse or acts of child abuse shall report this information immediately to the S.C. Department of Social Services.

Reports of child abuse and neglect can be made to the local DSS district office by calling the daytime or after-hours number listed below. There is at least one district office in every county. Calls received at DSS during normal working hours are immediately referred to the appropriate district office. DSS accepts all allegations of child abuse and neglect by telephone and in person from all sources, including identified sources, news media, anonymous sources, sources that have incomplete information, and referrals from the child or parent themselves.

Upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, a DSS caseworker shall investigate the allegations and take such action as is necessary to ensure the safety of the child.

County	Daytime Number	After-hours Number
Abbeville	(864) 459-5468	827-3545
Anderson	(864) 224-6576	224-6576
Greenville	(864) 467-7750	467-7750
Greenwood	(864) 229-5258	227-9620
Laurens	(864) 833-0100	1-800-402-0119
Newberry	(803) 321-2155	276-2222
Oconee	(864) 638-4403	638-4111
Pickens	(864) 898-5810	239-865

IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY

The S.C. Children's Code Reform Act of 1996 – Section 20-7-540 states:

“Section 20-7-540 –A person required or permitted to report pursuant to this article or who participates in judicial proceedings resulting from the report, acting in good faith, is immune from civil and criminal liability which might otherwise result by reason of these actions. In all such civil or criminal proceedings good faith is reputably presumed. This grant of immunity is cumulative to and does not replace any other immunity provided under the South Carolina Tort Claims Act.”