

**REPORTING REASONABLE SUSPICION OF A CRIME**

Staff members, including contractors and agents, who suspect that a crime has occurred against a resident, must file a report with local law enforcement and the state survey agency according to the following guidelines:

• Serious bodily injury – 2 hour time limit. If the events that cause the reasonable suspicion result in serious bodily injury to a patient, the suspicion must be reported immediately, but not later than 2 hours after forming the suspicion.

• No serious bodily injury – within 24 hours. If the events that cause the reasonable suspicion do not result in serious bodily injury to a patient, the suspicion must be reported within 24 hours of forming the suspicion.

• No employee, contractor or agent, will be retaliated against for making a report under this policy.

DEFINITIONS

“Crime” is defined by the law of the political subdivision where a facility is located. Facilities must coordinate with their state and local law enforcement entities to determine what actions are considered crimes within their political subdivisions. “Political subdivision” means a city, county, township or village.

“Local law enforcement” means the full range of potential responders to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation including: police, sheriffs, detectives, public safety officers, corrections personnel, prosecutors, medical examiners, investigators and coroners.

“Serious bodily injury” is an injury involving: extreme physical pain; substantial risk of death; protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty; or requiring medical intervention such as surgery, hospitalization or physical rehabilitation.