

Dear Five Rivers Council Scouter:

Having a current Youth Protection Training card, which is renewed every two years, it is important to stress the procedures that we all must follow. **Along with this letter is a copy of the procedures for reporting.** 

All persons involved in Scouting must report to local authorities – without undue delay – any good faith suspicion or belief that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect. You should not delegate this responsibility to anyone else and no one should interfere with this reporting responsibility or attempt to delay or dissuade you from making a report to the authorities.

Please contact my office as soon as possible to inform us of any report to authorities that relates to suspected abuse in the Scouting program. In addition, you are responsible for informing us of any violation of BSA's Youth Protection policies so we may take appropriate action.

The Five Rivers Council and Boy Scouts of America are deeply indebted to you and the millions of other volunteers who work hard to deliver the Scouting program to America's youth. The vast majority of these dedicated individuals have only the welfare of our members at heart. Unfortunately, a very small percentage of people have misused their Scouting position to harm children. As an adult leader of the BSA or a parent, you are the "early warning system" to protect our members.

Thank you for your dedicated service.

Yours in Scouting,

William T. McCahill Scout Executive/CEO Five Rivers Council, BSA

William T. M. Capill,

See Emergency Reporting Procedures (continued...)

## Five Rivers Council, Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection Reporting Procedures

#### **BSA Youth Protection Policies**

There are two types of Youth Protection-related reporting:

- When you witness or suspect any child has been abused or neglected—See "Mandatory Report
  of Child Abuse" below.
- When you witness a violation of the BSA's Youth Protection policies—See "Reporting Violations of BSA Youth Protection Policies" below.

#### Mandatory Report of Child Abuse

All persons involved in Scouting shall report to local authorities any good-faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused, physically or emotionally neglected, exposed to any form of violence or threat, exposed to any form of sexual exploitation, including the possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography, online solicitation, enticement, or showing of obscene material. *No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.* 

#### Steps to Reporting Child Abuse

- 1. Ensure the child is in a safe environment.
- 2. In cases of child abuse or medical emergencies, call 911 immediately. In addition, if the suspected abuse is in the Scout's home or family, you are required to contact one of the child protection agencies listed on the attached page.
- 3. Notify the Scout executive or his designee during his absence. (See contact names/numbers below.)

#### Reporting Violations of BSA Youth Protection Policies

If you have reason to believe any of the BSA's Youth Protection policies, including those described within *Scouting's Barriers to Abuse* have been violated, you must notify your local council Scout executive so he may take appropriate action for the safety of our Scouts.

## FIVER RIVERS COUNCIL EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSONNEL

In the event of an emergency, dial 911.

Local child protection hotline numbers are listed on the attached page.

District Director Scout Executive District Director

Dale White William T. McCahill Karl Ziegenfus

Office: 607-733-7614 Office: 607-732-9047 Office: 607-743-6899 Home: 570-596-3595 Home: 607-562-3088 Home: 607-743-6899 Cell: 607-425-6163 Cell: 607-738-8505 Cell: 607-743-6899

Email: dwhite@bsamail.org Email: bill.mccahill@scouting.org Email: karl.ziegenfus@scouting.org

Youth Protection can be achieved only through the shared involvement of everyone in Scouting.

### Remember—Youth Protection Begins With YOU.®

For more information about the BSA's Youth Protection policies, visit http://www.scouting.org/YouthProtection.aspx.



# EMERGENCY CONTACTS IN CASES INVOLVING CHILD ABUSE FIVE RIVERS COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA In cases of child abuse or medical emergencies, call 911 immediately!

In addition, if the suspected child abuse is in the Scout's home or family, you are required to contact:

PENNSYLVANIA: Child Line Toll Free, 1.800.932.0313 (TDD, 1.866.872.1677)

NEW YORK: Child Protective Services Toll Free, 1.800.342.3720 (TDD/TDY, 1.800.638.5163)