01/27/2015 - Please find attached information from the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources regarding free, online Mandated Child Abuse/Neglect Reporter Training provided by DHR. You can also find the link to access this training on the MFT web site under the links tab.

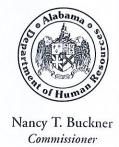




State of Alabama Department of Human Resources

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December 17, 2014

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Paula Scott McCaleb, Executive Director Alabama Board of Marriage and Family Therapists PO BOX 1001 Guntersville, AL 35976

Dear Ms. McCaleb,

The Department of Human Resources is pleased to announce the launch of a free, online Mandated Child Abuse/Neglect Reporter Training. This training is available on the DHR Website at http://training.dhr.alabama.gov. This training was developed to assist in recognizing the early signs of child abuse and neglect. The training also provides information on how, when, and where to make a report of child abuse and neglect.

Section 26-14-3 of <u>The Code of Alabama</u> states the following people are required to report suspected child abuse and neglect to the proper authorities: "All hospitals, clinics, sanitariums, doctors, physicians, surgeons, medical examiners, coroners, dentists, osteopaths, optometrists, chiropractors, podiatrists, physical therapists, nurses, public and private K-12 employees, school teachers and officials, peace officers, law enforcement officials, pharmacists, social workers, day care workers or employees, mental health professionals, employees of public and private institutions of postsecondary and higher education, members of the clergy as defined in Rule 505 of the Alabama Rules of Evidence, or any other person called upon to render aid or medical assistance to any child..."

http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLoginIE.asp)

As the regulatory board for a group included in the mandated reporter law, you are encouraged to make this training a requirement of your licensees. The Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners has made the training mandatory for licensure. The Alabama Department of Education and DHR now require the training for all employees. We are hopeful that other mandated reporter agencies and licensure boards follow this lead.

Please feel free to place the following link on your website so your licensees can easily access the training, http://training.dhr.alabama.gov. If you have questions regarding the content of the training, please contact Barry Spear, Public Information Director, at (334)242-1850 or barry.spear@dhr.alabama.gov.

Thank you for your service to the children and families of Alabama.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Buckner
Commissioner

Alabama Department of Human Resources

NTB:ma