

7. Third-Party Abuse and Neglect Concerns

Third-party abuse is defined in Oregon Administrative Rule as abuse 413-015-0115 as “abuse by a person who is not the child’s parent, not the child’s caregiver or other member of the child’s household, and not a person responsible for the child’s care, custody, and control. Examples of persons who could be considered as a third-party under this definition include school personnel, day-care providers, coaches, and church personnel.” Third-party abuse includes neglect.

Familial abuse is child abuse or neglect by a parent, caregiver or other member of the child’s household.

Procedure

- The screener should ask the following questions to ascertain the appropriateness of Department intervention versus forwarding the information to law enforcement when the alleged perpetrator of child abuse or neglect is a third party:
 1. Does the report provide enough information to identify an alleged perpetrator?
 2. What is the relationship between the alleged perpetrator and the child or the parent(s) or caregiver(s)?
 3. Does the alleged perpetrator have a familial relationship with children? If so, do the current allegations constitute a report of child abuse or neglect as defined in ORS 419B.005? What is the procedure to forward the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency?
 4. Is there additional information in the report that indicates CPS issues to be addressed by the Department? If so, how can the Department and law enforcement conduct a coordinated response to meet the different needs for investigation/assessment or support identified in the report?
 5. Third-party child abuse or neglect reports do not require a CPS assessment when the screener determines the information indicates the child is safe and a parent or caregiver will continue to ensure child safety.
- If the report of third-party child abuse or neglect does not require a CPS assessment, the screener will close the report at screening and forward it to the law enforcement agency in the county where the alleged abuse occurred.