

**441—176.5(235B) Reporting procedure.**

**176.5(1)** Each report made by someone other than a mandatory reporter may be oral or written.

**176.5(2)** The report shall be made by telephone or otherwise to the department. When the person making the report has reason to believe that immediate protection for the dependent adult is advisable, that person will be asked to also make an oral report to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

**176.5(3)** The department shall provide electronic access to all reports alleging dependent adult abuse to the appropriate county attorney.

**176.5(4)** The report may contain the following information, or as much thereof as the person making the report is able to furnish:

*a.* The names and home addresses of the dependent adult, appropriate relatives, caretakers, and other persons believed to be responsible for the care of the dependent adult.

*b.* The dependent adult's present whereabouts if not the same as the address given.

*c.* The reason the adult is believed to be dependent. Dependency is the first criterion to be considered before beginning an evaluation.

*d.* The dependent adult's age.

*e.* The nature and extent of the dependent adult abuse, including evidence of previous dependent adult abuse. The existence of alleged dependent adult abuse is the second criterion to be considered before beginning an evaluation.

*f.* Information concerning suspected dependent adult abuse of other dependent adults in the same residence.

*g.* Other information which the person making the report believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse or the identity of the person or persons responsible for the abuse, or helpful in providing assistance to the dependent adult.

*h.* The name and address of the person making the report.

**176.5(5)** A report will be received whether or not it contains all of the information requested in subrule 176.5(4), and may be made to the department, county attorney, or law enforcement agency. When the report is made to any agency other than the department, that agency shall promptly refer the report to the department.

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