

**County of Orange Social Services Agency  
Family Self-Sufficiency and Adult Services Division**

**Program/Area:** Adult Protective Services  
**Title:** Registry  
**Number:** 903  
**Effective Date:** 10/01/2000  
**Approved:** Signature on File

**Status:** Approved  
**Revision Date:** 3/9/2021

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**PURPOSE** To provide guidelines for assessing elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect allegations, screening eligibility, determining jurisdiction, and the level of APS response.

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**BACKGROUND** Since the inception of APS in 1985, a centralized Registry has accepted and documented reports of elder and dependent adult abuse. The Registry also provided referrals to other agencies for services and to law enforcement for follow-up and investigation of potential criminal activity. In 1986, the Orange County (OC) Board of Supervisors provided funding for the addition of social workers to conduct field investigations.

Subsequent to the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 2199 in 1998, the Registry was mandated to refer virtually all reports in the jurisdiction of APS to field staff for investigation. SB 2199 added or expanded the following:

- Funding of a statewide mandated Adult Protective Services program.
- The definition of elder and dependent adult abuse to include abandonment, isolation, financial abuse, and neglect.
- The definition of mandated reporter and mandated reporting responsibilities, as well as the mandated timeframes for the reporting of any known elder and dependent adult abuse or neglect.
- Cross-reporting responsibilities of APS to other jurisdictions such as law enforcement and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

The primary role of the Registry is to evaluate and document reports received from mandated and non-mandated reporters alleging elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect, as well as to determine the level of risk and need for intervention services. In addition, the APS Registry:

- Provides consultation to mandated reporters concerning reporting responsibilities, including completion of the mandated reporting form ([SOC 341](#), [SOC 342](#))
- Provides information and referrals to callers for a variety of services such as counseling, temporary shelters, medical and mental health clinics, and food banks.