

CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

NOTICE

May 5, 2020

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TO: All Concerned Personnel

FROM: Chief of Detectives

SUBJECT: ABUSED CHILD SECTION, JUVENILE DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES – REVISED

PURPOSE: This Notice revises the Chief of Detectives Notice “Abused Child Section, Juvenile Division Responsibilities – Revised, dated January 28, 2020. The purpose of that prior Notice was to revise Juvenile Manual, Chapter 3, Section 5, Abused Child Section Responsibilities and inform all concerned personnel of the revised investigative responsibilities case criteria for Abused Child Section, Juvenile Division.

JUVENILE DIVISION’S RESPONSIBILITIES: Effective immediately, Abused Child Section, Juvenile Division, will have Citywide responsibility for follow-up investigation of all complaints involving physically and/or sexually abused children that meet the following criteria:

- Homicide of a child under 11 years of age **where it appears the parent, stepparent, legal guardian, live-in boyfriend/girlfriend of the parent or guardian, or other person acting in the capacity of parent or legal guardian (parents(s)/guardian(s)) is responsible;**
- Undetermined deaths of children under 11 years of age;
- **Deaths of children under 11 years of age wherein neglect or action by the parent(s)/guardian(s) placed the child in an endangered situation that resulted in death;**
- Cases of hospitalization as a result of possible child abuse (critical injury) and the parent cannot provide a reasonable explanation for the injury;
- Cases when medical personnel (physicians, nurses and other medical professional) have deemed the mechanism that caused a critical injury as non-accidental. For these types of cases, a geographic Area supervisor shall seek advice and approval from Juvenile Division prior to transferring investigative responsibility from their respective divisions.
- Hospitalization for failure to thrive, severe neglect, or failure to seek medical treatment;
- All other child abuse; physical aggravated assault wherein the suspect is known to be 18 years of age and over;

Note: A geographic Area detective supervisor shall review all Child Abuse physical aggravated assault reports to determine if the report meets the felony child abuse criteria prior to forwarding the report to Juvenile Division. If it is determined that a Child Abuse physical simple assault took place and not an

aggravated assault, the supervisor shall have the report title and crime code updated and the investigative responsibility will remain with the geographic Area of occurrence.

- All Sexual Abuse Cases that meet one or more of the below criteria:
 - Unlawful Sexual Intercourse that involves an adult suspect over 21 years of age and a victim under 16 years of age which are prosecutable under Penal Code Section 261.5(d);

Note: This criteria focuses on the child predator suspects and will exclude cases that although illegal, could be consensual, such as a 19-year-old and 17-year-old in a sexual relationship, which will be handled at the geographic Areas.
 - Sexual Battery/Lewd Acts Upon a Child that involves an adult suspect, 18 years of age or older, and a victim who is under 14 years of age. Additionally, cases wherein the victim is 14 or 15 years of age and the suspect is more than 10 years older than the victim which are prosecutable as a felony under Penal Code Section 288; and,
 - Child Molesting/Annoying when the suspect has a prior conviction for the following: Penal Code Sections: 647.6, 261, 264.1, 269, 285, 286, 288a, 288.5 or 289; any of which involved a minor under 16 years of age. The Child Molesting/Annoying would be felonious conduct due to the prior conviction.
 - **All Rape I & II crimes if the victim was under 18 years of age and the suspect was 18 years of age and over at the time the crime occurred;**

Note: This criteria eliminates cases that would be considered misdemeanors, which will be handled at the geographic Areas.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA DETECTIVE'S RESPONSIBILITIES: Effective immediately, all geographic Areas will be responsible for the follow-up investigation of all complaints involving the following crimes that occur within their respective Areas:

- Child Abuse (Physical) Simple Assaults;
- Child Molesting/Annoying when the suspect is unknown, and/or the suspect has no prior convictions for Penal Code Sections: 647.6, 261, 264.1, 269, 285, 286, 288a, 288.5 or 289;
- Any physical or sexual abuse wherein the suspect is known to be under 18 years of age;
- Child on Child sexual **incidents**; and
- Any other physical or sexual abuse of a child that does not meet the criteria for Abused Child Section, Juvenile Division.

The investigative responsibility of a complaint involving physically and/or sexually abused children not specified in this notice will be determined by the commanding officer of Juvenile Division.

AREA DETECTIVE SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES: Area detective supervisors are responsible for reviewing the aforementioned reports, determining who will be responsible for the investigation, and ensuring that the report is properly assigned and/or disseminated.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA COMMANDING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES: All geographic Area commanding officers are responsible for ensuring that methods and systems are put in place to effectively monitor, gather, assess and disseminate all child abuse related reports throughout their respective geographic Areas. Commanding officers shall also ensure all personnel within their commands adhere to this Notice.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this notice, contact Juvenile Division at (213) 486-0570.

APPROVED:



KRIS E. PITCHER, Deputy Chief
Chief of Detectives



DOMINIC H. CHOI, Deputy Chief
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police

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