

## CHAPTER 626

TRAINING; INVESTIGATION, APPREHENSION;  
REPORTS

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**626.05 DEFINITIONS.***[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 2. The term "peace officer" as used in sections 626.04 to 626.17 means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer, constable, agent of the bureau of criminal apprehension, agent of the division of gambling enforcement, or University of Minnesota peace officer.

*[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1988]***History:** 1989 c 334 art 6 s 11**626.13 SERVICE, PERSONS MAKING.**

A search warrant may in all cases be served by any of the officers mentioned in its directions, but by no other person, except in aid of the officer on the officer's requiring it, the officer being present and acting in its execution. If the warrant is to be served by an agent of the bureau of criminal apprehension or an agent of the division of gambling enforcement, the agent shall notify the chief of police of an organized full-time police department of the municipality or, if there is no such local chief of police, the sheriff or a deputy sheriff of the county in which service is to be made prior to execution.

**History:** 1989 c 334 art 6 s 12**626.52 REPORTING OF SUSPICIOUS WOUNDS BY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.***[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 3. **Reporting burns.** A health professional shall file a written report with the state fire marshal within 72 hours after being notified of a burn injury or wound that the professional is called upon to treat, dress, or bandage, if the victim has sustained second- or third-degree burns to five percent or more of the body, the victim has sustained burns to the upper respiratory tract or sustained laryngeal edema from inhaling superheated air, or the victim has sustained a burn injury or wound that may result in the victim's death. The state fire marshal shall provide the form for the report.

**History:** 1989 c 290 art 8 s 3**626.5531 REPORTING OF CRIMES MOTIVATED BY BIAS.***[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 2. **Use of information collected.** The head of a local law enforcement agency or state law enforcement department that employs peace officers licensed under section 626.843 must file a monthly report describing crimes reported under this section with

the department of public safety, bureau of criminal apprehension. The commissioner of public safety must summarize and analyze the information received and file an annual report with the department of human rights and the legislature. The commissioner may include information in the annual report concerning any additional criminal activity motivated by bias that is not covered by this section.

**History:** 1989 c 261 s 9

## **626.556 REPORTING OF MALTREATMENT OF MINORS.**

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 2. Definitions.** As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given them unless the specific content indicates otherwise:

(a) "Sexual abuse" means the subjection by a person responsible for the child's care, or by a person in a position of authority, as defined in section 609.341, subdivision 10, to any act which constitutes a violation of section 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, or 609.345. Sexual abuse also includes any act which involves a minor which constitutes a violation of sections 609.321 to 609.324 or 617.246.

(b) "Person responsible for the child's care" means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.

(c) "Neglect" means failure by a person responsible for a child's care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter or medical care when reasonably able to do so or failure to protect a child from conditions or actions which imminently and seriously endanger the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so. Nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that a child is neglected solely because the child's parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child in lieu of medical care; except that there is a duty to report if a lack of medical care may cause imminent and serious danger to the child's health. This section does not impose upon persons, not otherwise legally responsible for providing a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, a duty to provide that care. "Neglect" includes prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in section 626.5561, used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child at birth, or medical effects or developmental delays during the child's first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance. Neglect also means "medical neglect" as defined in section 260.015, subdivision 2a, clause (5).

(d) "Physical abuse" means any physical injury inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care on a child other than by accidental means, or any physical injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child's history of injuries, or any aversive and deprivation procedures that have not been authorized under section 245.825.

(e) "Report" means any report received by the local welfare agency, police department, or county sheriff pursuant to this section.

(f) "Facility" means a day care facility, residential facility, agency, hospital, sanitarium, or other facility or institution required to be licensed pursuant to sections 144.50 to 144.58, 241.021, or 245.781 to 245.812.

(g) "Operator" means an operator or agency as defined in section 245A.02.

(h) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

(i) "Assessment" includes authority to interview the child, the person or persons responsible for the child's care, the alleged perpetrator, and any other person with

knowledge of the abuse or neglect for the purpose of gathering the facts, assessing the risk to the child, and formulating a plan.

(j) "Practice of social services," for the purposes of subdivision 3, includes but is not limited to employee assistance counseling and the provision of guardian ad litem services.

*[For text of subs 3 to 10d, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 10e. Determinations.** Upon the conclusion of every assessment or investigation it conducts, the local welfare agency shall make two determinations: first, whether maltreatment has occurred; and second, whether child protective services are needed.

(a) For the purposes of this subdivision, "maltreatment" means any of the following acts or omissions committed by a person responsible for the child's care:

(1) an assault, as defined in section 609.02, subdivision 10, or any physical contact not exempted by section 609.379, where the assault or physical contact is either severe or recurring and causes either injury or significant risk of injury to the child;

(2) neglect as defined in subdivision 2, paragraph (c); or

(3) sexual abuse as defined in subdivision 2, paragraph (a).

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, a determination that child protective services are needed means that the local welfare agency has documented conditions during the assessment or investigation sufficient to cause a child protection worker, as defined in section 626.559, subdivision 1, to conclude that a child is at significant risk of maltreatment if protective intervention is not provided and that the individuals responsible for the child's care have not taken or are not likely to take actions to protect the child from maltreatment or risk of maltreatment.

(c) This subdivision does not mean that maltreatment has occurred solely because the child's parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child, in lieu of medical care. However, if lack of medical care may result in imminent and serious danger to the child's health, the local welfare agency may ensure that necessary medical services are provided to the child.

*[For text of subd 10f, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 11. Records.** Except as provided in subdivisions 10b, 10d, and 11b, all records concerning individuals maintained by a local welfare agency under this section, including any written reports filed under subdivision 7, shall be private data on individuals, except insofar as copies of reports are required by subdivision 7 to be sent to the local police department or the county sheriff. Reports maintained by any police department or the county sheriff shall be private data on individuals except the reports shall be made available to the investigating, petitioning, or prosecuting authority. Section 13.82, subdivisions 5, 5a, and 5b, apply to law enforcement data other than the reports. The welfare board shall make available to the investigating, petitioning, or prosecuting authority any records which contain information relating to a specific incident of neglect or abuse which is under investigation, petition, or prosecution and information relating to any prior incidents of neglect or abuse involving any of the same persons. The records shall be collected and maintained in accordance with the provisions of chapter 13. In conducting investigations and assessments pursuant to this section, the notice required by section 13.04, subdivision 2, need not be provided to a minor under the age of ten who is the alleged victim of abuse or neglect. An individual subject of a record shall have access to the record in accordance with those sections, except that the name of the reporter shall be confidential while the report is under assessment or investigation except as otherwise permitted by this subdivision. Any person conducting an investigation or assessment under this section who intentionally discloses the identity of a reporter prior to the completion of the investigation or assessment is guilty of a misdemeanor. After the assessment or investigation is completed, the name of the reporter shall be confidential. The subject of the report may

compel disclosure of the name of the reporter only with the consent of the reporter or upon a written finding by the court that the report was false and that there is evidence that the report was made in bad faith. This subdivision does not alter disclosure responsibilities or obligations under the rules of criminal procedure.

*[For text of subds 11a and 11b, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 11c. **Welfare and school records maintained.** Notwithstanding sections 138.163 and 138.17, records maintained or records derived from reports of abuse by local welfare agencies or schools under this section shall be destroyed as provided in paragraphs (a) to (c) by the responsible authority.

(a) If upon assessment or investigation there is no determination of maltreatment or the need for child protective services, the records may be maintained for a period of four years. After the individual alleged to have maltreated a child is notified under subdivision 10f of the determinations at the conclusion of the assessment or investigation, upon that individual's request, records shall be destroyed within 30 days.

(b) All records relating to reports which, upon assessment or investigation, indicate either maltreatment or a need for child protective services shall be destroyed seven years after the date of the final entry in the case record.

(c) All records regarding a report of maltreatment, including any notification of intent to interview which was received by a school under subdivision 10, paragraph (d), shall be destroyed by the school when ordered to do so by the agency conducting the assessment or investigation. The agency shall order the destruction of the notification when other records relating to the report under investigation or assessment are destroyed under this subdivision.

*[For text of subd 12, see M.S.1988]*

**History:** 1989 c 177 s 2,3; 1989 c 282 art 2 s 200,201; 1989 c 290 art 5 s 4

## **626.5561 REPORTING OF PRENATAL EXPOSURE TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.**

Subdivision 1. **Reports required.** A person mandated to report under section 626.556, subdivision 3, shall immediately report to the local welfare agency if the person knows or has reason to believe that a woman is pregnant and has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose during the pregnancy. Any person may make a voluntary report if the person knows or has reason to believe that a woman is pregnant and has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose during the pregnancy.

Subd. 2. **Local welfare agency.** If the report alleges a pregnant woman's use of a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose, the local welfare agency shall immediately conduct an appropriate assessment and offer services indicated under the circumstances. Services offered may include, but are not limited to, a referral for chemical dependency assessment, a referral for chemical dependency treatment if recommended, and a referral for prenatal care. The local welfare agency may also take any appropriate action under chapter 253B, including seeking an emergency admission under section 253B.05. The local welfare agency shall seek an emergency admission under section 253B.05 if the pregnant woman refuses recommended voluntary services or fails recommended treatment.

Subd. 3. **Related provisions.** Reports under this section are governed by section 626.556, subdivisions 4, 4a, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11.

Subd. 4. **Controlled substances.** For purposes of this section and section 626.5562, "controlled substance" means a controlled substance classified in schedule I, II, or III under chapter 152.

**History:** 1989 c 290 art 5 s 5

**626.5562 TOXICOLOGY TESTS REQUIRED.**

Subdivision 1. **Test; report.** A physician shall administer a toxicology test to a pregnant woman under the physician's care to determine whether there is evidence that she has ingested a controlled substance, if the woman has obstetrical complications that are a medical indication of possible use of a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose. If the test results are positive, the physician shall report the results under section 626.5561. A negative test result does not eliminate the obligation to report under section 626.5561, if other evidence gives the physician reason to believe the patient has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose.

Subd. 2. **Newborns.** A physician shall administer to each newborn infant born under the physician's care a toxicology test to determine whether there is evidence of prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, if the physician has reason to believe based on a medical assessment of the mother or the infant that the mother used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose prior to the birth. If the test results are positive, the physician shall report the results as neglect under section 626.556. A negative test result does not eliminate the obligation to report under section 626.556 if other medical evidence of prenatal exposure to a controlled substance is present.

Subd. 3. **Report to department of health.** Physicians shall report to the department of health the results of tests performed under subdivisions 1 and 2. A report shall be made on February 1 and August 1 of each year, beginning February 1, 1990. The reports are medical data under section 13.42.

Subd. 4. **Immunity from liability.** Any physician or other medical personnel administering a toxicology test to determine the presence of a controlled substance in a pregnant woman or in a child at birth or during the first month of life is immune from civil or criminal liability arising from administration of the test, if the physician ordering the test believes in good faith that the test is required under this section and the test is administered in accordance with an established protocol and reasonable medical practice.

Subd. 5. **Reliability of tests.** A positive test result reported under this section must be obtained from a confirmatory test performed by a drug testing laboratory licensed by the department of health. The confirmatory test must meet the standards established under section 181.953, subdivision 1, and the rules adopted under it.

**History:** 1989 c 290 art 5 s 6

**626.558 MULTIDISCIPLINARY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment of the team.** A county may establish a multidisciplinary child protection team that may include, but not be limited to, the director of the local welfare agency or designees, the county attorney or designees, the county sheriff or designees, representatives of health and education, representatives of mental health or other appropriate human service agencies, and parent groups.

Subd. 2. **Duties of team.** A multidisciplinary child protection team may provide public and professional education, develop resources for prevention, intervention, and treatment, and provide case consultation to the local welfare agency to better enable the agency to carry out its child protection functions under section 626.556 and the community social services act. As used in this section, "case consultation" means a case review process in which recommendations are made concerning services to be provided to the identified children and family. Case consultation may be performed by a committee or subcommittee of members representing human services, including mental health and chemical dependency; law enforcement, including probation and parole; the county attorney; health care; education; and other necessary agencies; and persons directly involved in an individual case as designated by other members performing case consultation.

Subd. 2a. **Juvenile prostitution outreach program.** A multidisciplinary child protection team may assist the local welfare agency, local law enforcement agency, or an appropriate private organization in developing a program of outreach services for

juveniles who are engaging in prostitution. For the purposes of this subdivision, at least one representative of a youth intervention program or, where this type of program is unavailable, one representative of a nonprofit agency serving youth in crisis, shall be appointed to and serve on the multidisciplinary child protection team in addition to the standing members of the team. These services may include counseling, medical care, short-term shelter, alternative living arrangements, and drop-in centers. The county may finance these services by means of the penalty assessment authorized by section 609.3241. A juvenile's receipt of intervention services under this subdivision may not be conditioned upon the juvenile providing any evidence or testimony.

**Subd. 3. Information sharing.** (a) The local welfare agency may make available to the case consultation committee or subcommittee, all records collected and maintained by the agency under section 626.556 and in connection with case consultation. A case consultation committee or subcommittee member may share information acquired in the member's professional capacity with the committee or subcommittee to assist in case consultation.

(b) Case consultation committee or subcommittee members must annually sign a data sharing agreement, approved by the commissioner of human services, assuring compliance with chapter 13. Not public data, as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 8a, may be shared with members appointed to the committee or subcommittee in connection with an individual case when the members have signed the data sharing agreement.

(c) All data acquired by the case consultation committee or subcommittee in exercising case consultation duties, are confidential as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 3, and shall not be disclosed except to the extent necessary to perform case consultation, and shall not be subject to subpoena or discovery.

(d) No members of a case consultation committee or subcommittee meeting shall disclose what transpired at a case consultation meeting, except to the extent necessary to carry out the case consultation plan. The proceedings and records of the case consultation meeting are not subject to discovery, and may not be introduced into evidence in any civil or criminal action against a professional or local welfare agency arising out of the matter or matters which are the subject of consideration of the case consultation meeting. Information, documents, or records otherwise available from original sources are not immune from discovery or use in any civil or criminal action merely because they were presented during a case consultation meeting. Any person who presented information before the consultation committee or subcommittee or who is a member shall not be prevented from testifying as to matters within the person's knowledge. However, in a civil or criminal proceeding a person shall not be questioned about the person's presentation of information before the case consultation committee or subcommittee or about opinions formed as a result of the case consultation meetings.

A person who violates this subdivision is subject to the civil remedies and penalties provided under chapter 13.

**History:** 1989 c 282 art 2 s 202

## **626.5593 PEER REVIEW OF LOCAL AGENCY RESPONSE.**

**Subdivision 1. Establishment.** By January 1, 1991, the commissioner of human services shall establish a pilot program for peer review of local agency responses to child maltreatment reports made under section 626.556. The peer review program shall examine agency assessments of maltreatment reports and delivery of child protection services in at least two counties. The commissioner shall designate the local agencies to be reviewed, and shall appoint a peer review panel composed of child protection workers, as defined in section 626.559, and law enforcement personnel who are responsible for investigating reports of child maltreatment under section 626.556, subdivision 10, within the designated counties.

**Subd. 2. Duties.** The peer review panel shall meet at least quarterly to review case files representative of child maltreatment reports that were investigated or assessed by

the local agency. These cases shall be selected randomly from local welfare agency files by the commissioner. Not public data, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 8, may be shared with panel members in connection with a case review.

The panel shall review each case for compliance with relevant laws, rules, agency policies, appropriateness of agency actions, and case determinations. The panel shall issue a report to the designated agencies after each meeting which includes findings regarding the agency's compliance with relevant laws, rules, policies, case practice, and any recommendations to be considered by the agency. The panel shall also issue a semiannual report concerning its activities. This semiannual report shall be available to the public, but may not include any information that is classified as not public data.

**Subd. 3. Report to legislature.** By January 1, 1992, the commissioner shall report to the legislature regarding the activities of the peer review panel, compliance findings, barriers to the effective delivery of child protection services, and recommendations for the establishment of a permanent peer review system for child protection services.

**Subd. 4. Funds.** The commissioner may use funds allocated for child protection services, training, and grants to pay administrative expenses associated with the peer review panel pilot program created by this section.

**History:** 1989 c 282 art 2 s 203

## 626.84 DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE.

**Subdivision 1. Definitions.** For purposes of sections 626.84 to 626.863, the following terms have the meanings given them:

(a) "Board" means the board of peace officer standards and training.

(b) "Director" means the executive director of the board.

(c) "Peace officer" means an employee or an elected or appointed official of a political subdivision or law enforcement agency who is licensed by the board, charged with the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the general criminal laws of the state and who has the full power of arrest, and shall also include the Minnesota state patrol, agents of the division of gambling enforcement, and state conservation officers.

(d) "Constable" has the meaning assigned to it in section 367.40.

(e) "Deputy constable" has the meaning assigned to it in section 367.40.

(f) "Part-time peace officer" means an individual licensed by the board whose services are utilized by law enforcement agencies no more than an average of 20 hours per week, not including time spent on call when no call to active duty is received, calculated on an annual basis, who has either full powers of arrest or authorization to carry a firearm while on active duty. The term shall apply even though the individual receives no compensation for time spent on active duty, and shall apply irrespective of the title conferred upon the individual by any law enforcement agency. The limitation on the average number of hours in which the services of a part-time peace officer may be utilized shall not apply to a part-time peace officer who has formally notified the board pursuant to rules adopted by the board of the part-time peace officer's intention to pursue the specialized training for part-time peace officers who desire to become peace officers pursuant to sections 626.843, subdivision 1, clause (g), and 626.845, subdivision 1, clause (g).

(g) "Reserve officer" means an individual whose services are utilized by a law enforcement agency to provide supplementary assistance at special events, traffic or crowd control, and administrative or clerical assistance. A reserve officer's duties do not include enforcement of the general criminal laws of the state, and the officer does not have full powers of arrest or authorization to carry a firearm on duty.

(h) "Law enforcement agency" means a unit of state or local government that is authorized by law to grant full powers of arrest and to charge a person with the duties of preventing and detecting crime and enforcing the general criminal laws of the state.

*[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1988]*

**History:** 1989 c 334 art 6 s 13

**626.861 LEVY AND COLLECTION OF PENALTY ASSESSMENTS.**

*[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 3. Collection by court.** After a determination by the court of the amount of the fine or penalty assessment due, the court administrator shall collect the appropriate penalty assessment and transmit it to the county treasurer separately with designation of its origin as a penalty assessment, but with the same frequency as fines are transmitted. Amounts collected under this subdivision shall then be transmitted to the state treasurer for deposit in the general fund. The state treasurer shall identify and report to the commissioner of finance all amounts deposited in the general fund under this section.

**Subd. 4. Peace officers training account.** Receipts from penalty assessments must be credited to the general fund. The peace officers standards and training board may allocate from funds appropriated as follows:

(a) Up to ten percent may be provided for reimbursement to board approved skills courses in proportion to the number of students successfully completing the board's skills licensing examination.

(b) The balance may be used to pay each local unit of government an amount in proportion to the number of licensed peace officers and constables employed, at a rate to be determined by the board. The disbursed amount must be used exclusively for reimbursement of the cost of in-service training required under this chapter and chapter 214.

**History:** 1989 c 335 art 4 s 102,103