

## **REPORTING CHILD ABUSE**

TO: Little League District Administrative staffs and local league officials

FROM: Patrick W. Wilson, Senior Vice President of Operations & Program Development

DATE: January 12, 2012

RE: State Specific Information for Reporting Child Abuse

Little League Baseball, Incorporated (LLB) has always been at the forefront in protecting children from abuse, exploitation, and harm.

As a part of this initiative, LLB introduced its Child Protection Program in the mid-1990s, which was developed in partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. These materials are available in the Little League Operating Manual and on the Little League website. Chartered leagues are encouraged to review this information annually.

All states have child abuse reporting statutes. In continuing with its tradition of providing information and materials to constituent leagues to aid in protecting children, LLB's Child Protection Program has compiled a resource guide which references the child abuse reporting requirements of each of the 50 states and the Federal government.

This resource guide includes summaries of the relevant statutes and provides links to the applicable statutory language. Where available, LLB has also attempted to include hotline information or other contact information and useful resources.

Little League International strongly encourages all leagues and individuals to immediately report any alleged or reasonably suspected abuse of a child of any nature to the proper law enforcement authorities. To review this information, please, go to: <http://www.littleleague.org/learn/programs/childprotection/ReportingChildAbuse.htm>.

It is essential that each league review this material in order to understand their responsibilities on when and how to report supposed or alleged child abuse.

Thanks you for your time and attention.