Where can I find resources that provide information on child abuse reporting and clergy reporting laws relating to child abuse in my state?

For general information see: The Child Welfare Information Gateway and Clergy as Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect: Full-Text Excerpts of State Laws

Please be aware that any Internet site may not be complete or current on all state requirements. It is always important to consult with an experienced attorney who works with the child abuse reporting laws of your state when questions and concerns arise.

Also, when seeking to understand child abuse reporting it is important to have read ELCA constitutional provision 7.45. Questions regarding this constitutional provision should be reviewed with your synod office or other knowledgeable ELCA advisor.

Abuse by Clergy and Lay Leaders

All forms of sexual misbehavior by clergy and lay leaders with church members are unacceptable within the life of the church. The church should be a safe place where people can worship, learn, work, love and receive care in a manner that is free from sexual misconduct. To learn more or to report abuse, click here.

Legal Disclaimer

Information on this document does not constitute legal advice to anyone. In addition, the use of this document, and the sending or receipt of information through elca.org does not create attorney-client relationship of any sort. Visitors to elca.org should be aware that communication in this manner may not be considered as privileged or confidential. Individuals requiring legal assistance should engage a qualified attorney, licensed to practice law in the particular state or jurisdiction where the legal issues have arisen. Members of the ELCA, pastors, congregations, synods, and others affiliated with this church should always consult their own attorneys, accountants, or similar professionals whenever legal issues or problems arise. Neither the churchwide organization nor the general counsel is responsible for any loss, injury, liability, or damage related to your use of this document, whether from errors or omissions in the content of this document or any linked sites, from the site being down, or from any other use.