

DSS/LE First Response for

Child Abuse Cases

When a Victim or Witness is a CHILD (under age of 18):

Assess whether the child is safe and/or needs immediate medical attention.

1) Gather information from **the reporter or a non-offending adult AWAY from the child/victim** to include:

- Names, ages, current location of victim & suspect
- Type of abuse & how they learned about it
- Where it happened/Jurisdiction
- When it most recently happened*

*If child is injured, sick, or a sexual assault incident occurred within last 72 hours, seek immediate medical attention.



South Carolina Network
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Minimal Facts Interview

2) **ONLY** if the reporter or a non-offending adult is not available to provide information, ask the child minimal facts questions:

- **WHAT** happened?

(type of abuse)

- **WHO** did this?

(relationship to child)

- **WHEN** did it happen?

(*assess immediate medical needs)

- **WHERE** did it happen?

(jurisdiction)

3) **Contact your local Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)** where a more detailed interview will be conducted by a trained interviewer.

To locate your local CAC visit:

www.cac-sc.org

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