

PINEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

SECTION: 11 INVESTIGATIONS

SUBJECT: 1100 CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION

EFFECTIVE: 01/01/2015

1. **POLICY.** It is the express policy of the department to actively seek out, aggressively investigate and prosecute situations that involve child abuse and/or neglect.
2. **REPORTS.** An inquiry and investigation shall be conducted upon receipt of any allegation concerning child abuse and/or neglect. A report documenting the inquiry and investigation will be completed.
3. **AWARENESS.** Officers responding to domestic violence, aid, or other calls involving children shall be vigilant for evidence or indications of child abuse and/or neglect. If indicators are present, in addition to the matter currently at hand, inquiries and/or investigation shall be conducted to either confirm or refute a history of child abuse or neglect.
4. **PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.** If an officer reasonably believes that a child's welfare would be jeopardized if left in the child's condition or surroundings, the child shall be taken into protective custody and evaluated by the Office of Child Protection or the juvenile department after appropriate placement. This is authorized under Children's Code Article 621. Officers are encouraged to utilize their full power under the child abuse laws when dealing with suspected cases or child abuse or neglect. In the event a child is taken into protective custody, during normal business hours the Juvenile Officer will be contacted immediately if after hours the Juvenile Officer or on call CIB Investigator will be notified. If the child must be removed as a victim, Office of Child Protection will make alternate placements if appropriate. If the child is an offender, the juvenile department will decide about custody and placement.
5. **JUVENILE DEPARTMENT ADVICE.** In those incidents in which a specific course of action is not apparent, officers shall contact the Juvenile Officer or on call CIB Investigator for advice. A complete incident report shall be of the incident

By order of

Darrell Basco
Chief of Police