

Vulnerable Adult Abuse

325.1 POLICY

The Vancouver Police Department shall investigate reported incidents related to vulnerable adults and ensure proper reporting and notification as required by law.

325.2 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Members of the Vancouver Police Department shall notify the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) when there is reasonable cause to believe that abandonment, physical, mental, or sexual abuse, financial exploitation, assault, neglect, or harassment of a vulnerable adult has occurred.

The medical examiner or coroner shall also be notified when there is reason to suspect that the death of a vulnerable adult was caused by abuse, neglect or abandonment by another person.

325.2.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The duty to file a mandatory report can be satisfied by an external routing on reports to Adult Protective Services and/or by calling Adult Protective Services' Central Intake Hotline.

325.3 INTERVIEWS

When practicable and the victim is and reasonably should be expected to be safe, Officers should forward their reports to the Elder Justice Center detective(s) for interviews and extensive investigation.

If an officer has reasonable cause to believe that a victim presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled, the officer may take the person into emergent detention pursuant VPD policy and RCW.

325.4 TRAINING

The Department Training Unit provides training on patrol response to vulnerable adult abuse incidents.