Elder Abuse Mandatory Reporting Flow Chart for Victim Service Providers

Are you a “mandatory reporter”?  
Review your statute to determine whether it mandates reporting and if you must report. Pay attention to the particular requirements. Inform the older victim at the outset if you are mandated to report.

Yes

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Is the victim someone about whom abuse must be reported? 
Does the victim meet the age threshold in your statute (e.g., 55, 60, or 65) or definition of “vulnerable” or “at risk” adult?

No

Yes

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Has the victim experienced “elder abuse” as defined by statute?

No

Yes

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Are you exempt from reporting in this case? 
For example, is the information protected by an attorney-client or advocate-victim privilege that would prohibit disclosure without victim consent?

No

Yes

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Report must be made. 
Make the report to the appropriate agency. If there is a choice between agencies, discuss the options with the victim. Ensure you are reporting what is required, and that you are complying with VAWA or other federal confidentiality requirements. Absent victim consent (or a court mandate), you may report only the information required by statute. Remember to safety plan and offer the victim ongoing support.
For more information, contact VRLC at 503-274-5477 or TA@victimrights.org or www.victimrights.org or NCALL at 608-255-0539 or www.ncall.us

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