



**Dominion Residence of Maryland, Inc.**

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**ABUSE AND NEGLECT STATEMENT**

**It is the position of Dominion Residence of Maryland, Inc. to make sure staff are familiar and comply with Individual abuse and neglect requirements (Comar14.31.06.14) and actively ensure the provision of a safe environment for all the residents at all times. It is mandatory for all staff to read and understand the various types of Individual abuse and neglect and make sure they adhere to them and report immediately (in accordance with the PORII) if there are any violations.**

**Individual abuse** is the non-accidental physical injury (ranging from minor bruises to severe fractures or death) as a result of punching, beating, kicking, biting, shaking, throwing, stabbing, choking, hitting (with a hand, stick, strap, or other object), burning, or otherwise harming an Individual regardless of whether it is intended to hurt the Individual.

**Neglect** is the failure to provide for an Individual’s basic needs. Failure to provide necessary food or shelter, or lack of appropriate supervision, failure to provide necessary medical or mental health treatment, failure to educate an Individual or attend to special education needs, failure to provide psychological care, or permitting the Individual to use alcohol or other drugs.

**Sexual abuse** includes activities such as fondling an Individual’s genitals, penetration, incest, rape, sodomy, indecent exposure, and exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials. It is the employment, use, persuasion, inducement, enticement, or coercion of any Individual to engage in, or assist any other person to engage in, any sexually explicit conduct or simulation of such conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct; or the rape, and in cases of caretaker or inter-familial relationships, statutory rape, molestation, prostitution, or other form of sexual exploitation of Individual, or incest with Individual.

**Emotional abuse** (or psychological abuse) is a pattern of behavior that impairs an Individual’s emotional development or sense of self-worth. This may include constant criticism, threats, or rejection, as well as withholding love, support, or guidance. Emotional abuse is often difficult to prove and, therefore, Individual protective services may not be able to intervene without evidence of harm or mental injury to the Individual. Emotional abuse is almost always present when other forms are identified.

**Abandonment** is a form of neglect. In general, an Individual is considered to be abandoned when the staff’s whereabouts are unknown, the Individual has been left alone in circumstances where the Individual suffers serious harm, or the staff has failed to maintain contact with the Individual or provide reasonable support for a specified period of time.

**Substance abuse** is an element of Individual abuse or neglect. Circumstances that are considered abuse or neglect in some States include: exposure of an Individual to harm of an illegal drug or other substance, selling, distributing, or giving illegal drugs or alcohol to an Individual and use of a controlled substance by a caregiver that impairs the caregiver’s ability to adequately care for the Individual.

I acknowledge having read and understood my responsibility vis-à-vis the Individual I work with and the state requirement.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

