Children's Law Center
Joseph F. Rice School of Law
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Child Physical Abuse and Neglect Investigations: The Basics

Who should attend: DSS staff and attorneys, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, guardian's ad litem, children's advocacy center professionals, child abuse medical professionals

Overview: This training focuses on the basics of child physical abuse and neglect investigations with an emphasis on multidisciplinary coordination. The training will begin with an overview of the prevalence of child abuse and neglect, recognizing red flags and risk factors, distinguishing between inflicted and accidental injuries, the emergency protective custody process, and interviewing. The interviewing segment of the training will include a review of general techniques of interviewing, the individuals that need to be interviewed, and the questions that should be asked in a comprehensive investigation. The training will also cover proper documentation, evidence collection, definitions of abuse and neglect, and applicable criminal laws.

Dates and Locations:

- March 23, 2027 – Charleston County Sheriff's Office, North Charleston, SC
- June 24, 2027 – Town of Lexington Police Department, Lexington, SC

Time: 8:45 am – 4:15 pm

Fee: There is no charge for this training.

Continuing Education Credits: This training is approved for a total of 6 general contact hours. This training has also been approved by the SC Criminal Justice Academy for 6 credit hours.

For more information: Contact Brianna Smalls at bdsmalls@mailbox.sc.edu or 803-576-7235.

To register: Go to the Children's Law Center registration system: https://sc.edu/clc/public/index.php.