



## Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 3, 2018

DAL: DAL 18-09  
SUBJECT: Reporting of Deaths, Attempted  
Suicide, and Felony Crimes

Dear Administrator:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Section 461-m of Social Services Law has been amended to address reporting requirements related to resident deaths, attempted suicides, and incidents that the operator believes or reasonably should believe would constitute a felony crime committed against residents residing in Adult Homes and Enriched Housing Programs in New York State, and to better coordinate with provisions governing reporting to the NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Justice Center).

In addition to existing reporting requirements, effective immediately **all Adult Homes and Enriched Housing Programs must:**

- Report any death or attempted suicide of a resident to the Department of Health within 24 hours;
- Report to an appropriate law enforcement authority if the operator discovers an incident that is believed or reasonably should believe would constitute a felony crime against a resident as soon as possible, or in any event within twenty-four hours; and
- Report to the Justice Center any attempted suicides and incidents that the operator believes or reasonably should believe would constitute a felony, involving residents who at any time received mental hygiene services.

Reporting to the Department of Health shall be made on the DOH-5175 (DSS-3123) Incident Report and faxed to the appropriate Regional Office. Reporting to the Justice Center shall be made by calling the Vulnerable Persons Central Register Hotline at (855) 373-2122.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in bringing this important legislation into practice. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at (518) 408-1133, or contact your Regional Office Program Manager.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Deetz, Director  
Division of ACF/Assisted Living Surveillance

cc: L. Darman  
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