Rhode Island

Uniform Response Protocol for child pornography

This protocol was developed to address and support not only the victims displayed in child pornography, but also potential victims in the lives of possession offenders and victims of sextortion. This protocol aims to promote the safety of families, increase access to services, provide comfort for delayed disclosure, provide support for non-offending caregivers, and increase communication between disciplines. This protocol was developed by a working group of the Rhode Island Human Trafficking Task Force including partners from Day One, the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), Rhode Island State Police and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office (RIAG), the United States Attorney’s Office (USAO), and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

The federal government defines child pornography as any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct where:

- The production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor (any person under the age of eighteen) engaging in sexually explicit conduct;
- Such visual depiction is a digital image, computer image, or computer-generated image of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or
- Such visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to display an identifiable minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

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<th>Production of images of child pornography includes:</th>
<th>Possession of images of child pornography includes:</th>
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<td>Producing</td>
<td>Books</td>
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<td>Directing</td>
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<td>Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Issuing</td>
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<td>Videotapes</td>
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<td>Or any other material that contains an image of child pornography</td>
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Sextortion

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) defines sextortion as a relatively new form of exploitation that occurs primarily online and in which non-physical forms of coercion are utilized, such as blackmail, to acquire sexual content (photos/videos) of the child, obtain money from the child or engage in sex with the child.

Sexting

Rhode Island defines this as a minor knowingly and voluntarily (without force or coercion) electronically disseminating indecent visual depictions of themselves engaging in sexually explicit behavior (masturbation/graphic focus on or lascivious exhibition of nude genitals or pubic area). Rhode Island defines this not as a criminal act but as a status offense referred to Family Court.

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)

The MDT brings together all disciplines involved in a child pornography case and enhances coordination, is victim centered, and aims to reduce the risk of re-victimization. These teams may include law enforcement, prosecution, DCYF, mental health, victim advocacy, medical and other service providers.

Disclaimer: Nothing in this protocol is intended to create any substantive or procedural rights, privileges or benefits enforceable in any administrative, civil or criminal matters by any prospective or actual defendants, witnesses or parties.
# Child Pornography Rhode Island First Responder Protocol

## Immediate Response:

1. **On Scene Assessment**
   - Assess safety of others in home
   - Collect evidence and properly store technology
   - Minimal facts interview with potential victims

2. **Establish Victim Advocate** (if not already involved)
   - Needs assessment
   - Coordinate with law enforcement to make referrals/reports to DCYF, Hasbro & Day One
   - MDT Participation

3. **Report to DCYF**
   - Call local law enforcement if not already involved
   - Screen calls & refer cases to Special Investigations Unit
   - Investigate in coordination with law enforcement
   - MDT Participation

4. **Call Hasbro Aubin Center**
   - Assess need for an immediate hospital evaluation
   - Schedule outpatient services
   - MDT Participation

5. **Call caregiver if appropriate**
   - MDT Coordination
   - First meeting scheduled & team contacted within 48 hours
   - Schedule forensic interview at the CAC (can be done elsewhere)
   - Refer clinical services for victim and non-offending caregiver

6. **Call Day One**
   - 1-800-494-8100
   - Provide information on:
     - Awareness
     - Prevention
     - Parenting support
     - Referrals for services

## Disclosure or Discovery of Sexting

Sexting is not considered Child Pornography under RIGL 11-9-1.4. Reports may be made to DCYF and local law enforcement.

DCYF Caregiver Notification

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Minors disseminating images of other minors are subject to the Child Pornography statute

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