

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**TITLE 11. LAW  
DIVISION 1. ATTORNEY GENERAL  
CHAPTER 9. REPORT OF CHILD ABUSE**

**FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

**UPDATE OF INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

On January 24, 2025, the Department of Justice (DOJ) published an Initial Statement of Reasons to explain modifications to these regulations as originally proposed and the reasons for those modifications. These regulations were modified as follows:

**Article 1. Administration of the Child Abuse Central Index**

**§ 901. Form Required for Submitting Report of Known or Suspected Child Abuse or Severe Neglect.**

Section 901 was amended to specify that, in accordance with Penal Code section 11169, an agency that is required to report instances of known or suspected child abuse or severe neglect shall do so when it conducts an active investigation and determines the allegations are substantiated. This amendment was necessary to ensure that the regulation clearly reflects statutory reporting requirements.

This section was further amended to add the word “child” before “abuse” and “severe” before “neglect,” replace the reference to “CANRA” with references to Penal Code sections 11165.1, 11165.2, subdivision (a), 11165.3, 11165.4, 11165.5, and 11165.12 for definitional purposes, and clarify that “DOJ” means the California Department of Justice. These amendments were necessary to improve clarity and align the regulation with statutory definitions.

This section was also amended to include the correct revision date for the Child Abuse or Severe Neglect Indexing Form, BCIA 8583, and to replace the word “is” with “are,” “that” with “those,” and “are” with “is” for grammatical purposes. These amendments were necessary to ensure that the regulation incorporates the current form and maintains accuracy.

**BCIA 8583**

This form was revised to remove the prior instruction requiring agencies to attach a copy of the original BCIA 8583 when submitting an amended report. A new field titled “Initial Report Submission Date” was added to section C (Amended Report Information) to capture this information in a more efficient manner. These revisions were necessary to simplify the amended reporting process and reduce the administrative burden on agencies.

Section D (Involved Parties) was revised to remove the “Approximate Age” fields, as this information was duplicative of the required date of birth field, and to add new checkboxes for

“Nonbinary/Unspecified.” These revisions were necessary to improve accuracy, avoid redundancy, and ensure inclusive gender reporting.

The Privacy Notice was revised to specify the purpose for which the information collected will be used and to designate the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Response Unit “Analyst” as the point of contact. These revisions were necessary to provide transparency and ensure that agencies and individuals have clear contact information for inquiries regarding CACI submissions.

The Privacy Notice was further amended to remove “subdivision (f)” after “Penal Code 11170,” to add the letter “s” to “purposes,” and remove “also” between “may” and “be.” These amendments were necessary to align the regulation with statutory authority and for grammatical purposes.

## **§ 902. Responsibilities of Agencies Submitting Reporting Form.**

Throughout this section, the word “child” was added before “abuse.” This amendment was necessary to provide clarity and ensure consistency with statutory definitions.

Subdivision (a) was amended to clarify that “CACI” means the Child Abuse Central Index and “CANRA” means the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, and to insert “, subdivision” before “(a)” in the reference to Penal Code section 11169. Subdivision (a) was further amended to incorporate by reference the “Instructions for Completing the Child Abuse or Severe Neglect Indexing Form (BCIA 8583) (Rev. 03/2025)” to provide agencies with updated guidance for completing the BCIA 8583.

Subdivision (a) was also amended to require the inclusion of “initial report submission date” for amended reports, to add “or left blank” as an option for certain check boxes, and to specify “and may be left blank” for information not required for a BCIA 8583 to be considered complete. In addition, subdivision (a) was amended to remove the requirement that agencies attach a copy of the original report when submitting an amended BCIA 8583 and to remove references to “approximate age.” Subdivision (a) was further amended to add provisions directing agencies to discontinue a submission if required information cannot be provided. These amendments were necessary to align with statutory requirements, streamline reporting, reduce ambiguity, and prevent incomplete or inaccurate information from being entered into the CACI.

Subdivision (b) was amended to specify that rejection letters will be sent to the agency’s designated point of contact. This amendment was necessary to ensure proper communication between DOJ and submitting agencies.

Subdivision (e) was amended to add the phrase “but not limited to” concerning agencies subject to retention requirements. This amendment was necessary to clarify that all agencies meeting the statutory criteria are obligated to comply with retention requirements.

**§ 903. Entities Authorized to Access CACI Information May Not Make Determinations Based Solely on the CACI Listing.**

The Authority and Reference section was non-substantively amended to remove the comma after all references to Penal Code section 11169 and to remove extra spaces.

**§ 904. DOJ Notification When a Submitting Agency Provides Names Identified in Existing CACI Entries.**

Subdivision (a) was amended to add the word “child” before “abuse.” This amendment was necessary to provide clarity and ensure consistency with statutory definitions.

The Authority and Reference section was non-substantively amended to remove an extra space.

**§ 905. Releasing CACI Information in Response to Inquiries From Authorized Entities.**

This section was amended to include the updated revision dates for the Request for Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Search, BCIA 4084 and Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Inquiry Request for Out-of-State Foster Care & Adoption Agencies, BCIA 4057. These amendments were necessary to ensure that the regulation incorporates the current forms.

The Authority and Reference section was non-substantively amended to remove an extra space.

**BCIA 4084**

The Privacy Notice was revised to specify the purpose for which the information collected will be used and to designate the CACI Response Unit “Analyst” as the point of contact. These revisions were necessary to provide transparency and ensure that agencies and individuals have clear contact information for inquiries regarding CACI submissions.

The Privacy Notice was further amended to remove “subdivision (f)” after “Penal Code 11170,” to add the letter “s” to “purposes,” and remove “also” between “may” and “be.” These amendments were necessary to align the regulation with statutory authority and for grammatical purposes.

**BCIA 4057**

The Privacy Notice was revised to specify the purpose for which the information collected will be used and to designate the CACI Response Unit “Analyst” as the point of contact. These revisions were necessary to provide transparency and ensure that agencies and individuals have clear contact information for inquiries regarding CACI submissions.

The Privacy Notice was further amended to remove “subdivision (f)” after “Penal Code 11170,” to add the letter “s” to “purposes,” and remove “also” between “may” and “be.” These amendments were necessary to align the regulation with statutory authority and for grammatical purposes.

## **§ 906. Disclosure of CACI Information To Members of the Public.**

This section was amended to include the updated revision date for the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Self Inquiry Request, BCIA 4056. These amendments were necessary to ensure that the regulation incorporates the current form.

### **BCIA 4056**

The Privacy Notice was revised to specify the purpose for which the information collected will be used and to designate the CACI Response Unit “Analyst” as the point of contact. These revisions were necessary to provide transparency and ensure that agencies and individuals have clear contact information for inquiries regarding CACI submissions.

The Privacy Notice was further amended to remove “subdivision (f)” after “Penal Code 11170,” to add the letter “s” to “purposes,” and remove “also” between “may” and “be.” These amendments were necessary to align the regulation with statutory authority and for grammatical purposes.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND DOJ RESPONSES**

DOJ received ten written comments during the initial 45-day comment period which occurred from January 24, 2025, through March 11, 2025. DOJ received zero comments during the 15-day comment period which occurred from August 5, 2025, through August 20, 2025.

Attachment A is a summary of all comments submitted during the 45-day comment period as well as DOJ’s responses. Attachment B is a comment index of the commenters and identifies (by number) the comment(s) made by each person.

### **LOCAL MANDATE DETERMINATION**

The proposed regulation does not impose any mandate on local agencies or school districts.

### **ALTERNATIVES DETERMINATIONS**

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.9, subdivision (a)(4), DOJ has determined that no alternative it considered, or that it otherwise identified, or was brought to its attention, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

This determination is based on the fact that the authorizing statute requires specified reporting and background check procedures under CANRA, and DOJ minimized the information required and the forms prescribed to fulfill those statutory duties.

## **ALTERNATIVES THAT WOULD LESSEN ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES**

DOJ determines that the proposed regulations do not affect small businesses because the proposed amendments affect only those individuals listed in the CACI as a result of the reporting requirements in Penal Code section 11169.

## **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

1. Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Self Inquiry Request, BCIA 4056, rev. 11/2024 (see subdivision (a) of section 906)
2. Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Inquiry Request for Out-Of-State Foster Care & Adoption Agencies, BCIA 4057, rev. 06/2024 (see subdivision (b) of section 905)
3. Request For Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) Search, BCIA 4084, rev. 06/2024 (see subdivision (a) of section 905)
4. Child Abuse or Severe Neglect Indexing Form, BCIA 8583, rev. 06/2024 (see section 901)
5. Instructions for Completing the Child Abuse or Severe Neglect Indexing Form (BCIA 8583), rev. 03/2025 (see subdivision (a) of section 902)

The above forms are incorporated by reference because it would be cumbersome, unduly expensive, or otherwise impractical to publish the forms in the California Code of Regulations. During the rulemaking proceeding, the forms were made available upon request, and were available for viewing on DOJ's website.

## **NON-DUPLICATION**

Some of the regulations may repeat or rephrase, in whole or in part, a state or federal statute or regulation. This was necessary to satisfy the clarity standard set forth in Government Code section 11349.1, subdivision (a)(3).