

## PA Child Protection Compliance Memo

April 14, 2015

### New Child Protection Laws in PA:

Pennsylvania recently passed a number of new laws in an effort to better protect the children of Pennsylvania and to provide more tools for effective prosecution of offenders. **Starting July 1, 2015, all prospective and current adult volunteers who have direct contact with children or who are responsible for the welfare of a child will be required to obtain both criminal background check clearances and child abuse clearances, and to have those clearances recertified every three years. A child is defined as anyone under the age of 18 years.**

All prospective volunteers 18 years or older must obtain the following clearances:

- Report of Criminal History from Pennsylvania State Police  
<https://epatch.state.pa.us>
- Child Abuse History Clearance from the Dept. of Human Services (Child Abuse)  
<http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

In addition, any prospective volunteer that has not resided in Pennsylvania continuously for the last 10 years must obtain a fingerprint based federal criminal history (FBI) submitted through the Pennsylvania State Police or its authorized agent.

[http://www.pa.cogentid.com/index\\_dpw.htm](http://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_dpw.htm)

Those who have lived in PA for the past 10 years will submit a notarized affidavit.