



# OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEGRITY

**Janson D. McNair, Director**

## **Publicly Disclosed Information:**

**OPI Case Number 23-023**

**Date: 3/22/2023**

### **ALLEGATIONS:**

Complaint that Child Protective Services refused to investigate allegations of abuse against a school staff employee. Per complainant, worker indicated that they "wash their hands" of responsibility when it involves school employees. Also complains that other mandated reporters were not reporting the alleged abuse.

### **FINDINGS:**

By state law there are people who cannot be named as a subject of a child protective investigation, which may include the person caller is trying to report. advised her to report what they witnessed as abuse to local law enforcement, or to the NY State Police, who have jurisdiction over a crime.

NYS Social Services law says: " For all non-residential schools and for all other residential schools, school staff cannot be subjects of reports. Accordingly, school staff of such schools would not be mandated to report alleged abuse or maltreatment of a child by another school staff, as the school staff are outside the purview of the child protective system in their role as school staff." E mail sent to complainant advising they contact Local or NYS police, and directing them to the website for NYS Dept of Education, which does have jurisdiction over school employees.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

None

