

Statutory Review of Multidisciplinary Teams and Information Sharing

(Caveat: Does not include administrative interpretation of the statutes)
December 2013 as of 1.30.2017

13 States with a Multidisciplinary Team Statute

CA	Cal Wel & Inst Code § 15610.55 (2014) (a) " Multidisciplinary personnel team " means any team of two or more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification, management, or treatment of abuse of elderly or dependent adults and who are qualified to provide a broad range of services related to abuse of elderly or dependent adults. (b) A multidisciplinary personnel team may include, but need not be limited to, any of the following: ... Cal Wel & Inst Code § 15633 (2014) (a) The reports made pursuant to Sections 15630, 15630.1, and 15631 shall be confidential and may be disclosed only as provided in subdivision (b). ... (A) Persons who are trained and qualified to serve on multidisciplinary personnel teams may disclose to one another information and records that are relevant to the prevention, identification, or treatment of abuse of elderly or dependent persons. (B) Except as provided in subparagraph (A), any personnel of the multidisciplinary team or agency that receives information pursuant to this chapter, shall be under the same obligations and subject to the same confidentiality penalties as the person disclosing or providing that information. The information obtained shall be maintained in a manner that ensures the maximum protection of privacy and confidentiality rights. ... (See also Cal Wel & Inst Code § 15633.5 (2014))

CO	<p>C.R.S. 26-3.1-103 (2014) ... (2) Each county department, law enforcement agency, district attorney's office, and other agency responsible under federal law or the laws of this state to investigate mistreatment, self-neglect, or exploitation of at-risk adults shall develop and implement cooperative agreements to coordinate the investigative duties of such agencies. The focus of such agreements shall be to ensure the best protection for at-risk adults. The agreements shall provide for special requests by one agency for assistance from another agency and for joint investigations. The agreements shall further provide that each agency shall maintain the confidentiality of the information exchanged pursuant to such joint investigations. (3) Each county or contiguous group of counties in the state in which a minimum number of reports of mistreatment, self-neglect, or exploitation of at-risk adults are annually filed shall establish an at-risk adult protection team. The state board shall promulgate rules to specify the minimum number of reports that will require the establishment of an adult at-risk protection team. The at-risk adult protection team shall review the processes used to report and investigate mistreatment, self-neglect, or exploitation of at-risk adults, review the provision of protective services for such adults, facilitate interagency cooperation, and provide community education on the mistreatment, self-neglect, and exploitation of at-risk adults. The director of each county department shall create or coordinate a protection team for the respective county in accordance with rules adopted by the state board of human services, which rules shall govern the establishment, composition, and duties of the team and shall be consistent with this subsection (3).</p>
FL	<p>Fla. Stat. § 415.1102 (2014) (1) Subject to an appropriation, the department may develop, maintain, and coordinate the services of one or more multidisciplinary adult protection teams in each of the districts of the department. As used in this section, the term "multidisciplinary adult protection team" means a team of two or more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification, and treatment of abuse of elderly persons, as defined in s. 430.602, or of dependent persons and who are qualified to provide a broad range of services related to abuse of elderly or dependent persons. (2) Such teams may be composed of, but need not be limited to: ... Fla. Stat. § 415.106 (2014) (2) To ensure coordination, communication, and cooperation with the investigation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults, the department shall develop and maintain interprogram agreements or operational procedures among appropriate departmental programs and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Council, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and other agencies that provide services to vulnerable adults. These agreements or procedures must cover such subjects as the appropriate roles and responsibilities of the department in identifying and responding to reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults; the provision of services; and related coordinated activities. ... See also Fla. Stat. § 415.107 (2014) and Fla. Stat. § 415.1045 (2014) [exceptions to confidentiality]</p>

IL	<p>320 ILCS 20/3 (2014) (a-5) A provider agency shall, in accordance with rules promulgated by the Department, establish a multi-disciplinary team to act in an advisory role for the purpose of providing professional knowledge and expertise in the handling of complex abuse cases involving eligible adults. Each multi-disciplinary team shall consist of one volunteer representative from the following professions: banking or finance; disability care; health care; law; law enforcement; mental health care; and clergy. A provider agency may also choose to add representatives from the fields of substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, or other related fields. To support multi-disciplinary teams in this role, law enforcement agencies and coroners or medical examiners shall supply records as may be requested in particular cases. ...320 ILCS 20/5 (2014) ... In developing a case plan, the provider agency may consult with any other appropriate provider of services, and such providers shall be immune from civil or criminal liability on account of such acts. ... 320 ILCS 20/8. All records...shall be confidential ... access to such records, but not access to the identity of the person or persons making a report of alleged abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, or self-neglect as contained in such records, shall be provided, upon request, to the following persons and for the following persons: ...</p>
IA	<p>Iowa Code § 235B.1 (2013) The program shall include but is not limited to: ... 1. The establishment of local or regional multidisciplinary teams to assist in assessing the needs of, formulating and monitoring a treatment plan for, and coordinating services to victims of dependent adult abuse. The membership of a team shall include individuals who possess knowledge and skills related to the diagnosis, assessment, and disposition of dependent adult abuse cases and who are professionals practicing in the disciplines of medicine, public health, mental health, social work, law, law enforcement, or other disciplines relative to dependent adults. Members of a team shall include but are not limited to persons representing the area agencies on aging, county attorneys, health care providers, and other persons involved in advocating or providing services to dependent adults. 2. Provisions for information sharing and case consultation among service providers, care providers, and victims of dependent adult abuse. [see also Iowa Code § 235B.3 (2013)]</p>

KY	<p>KRS § 209.030 (2014) ... (6) (a) The cabinet shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate its investigation with the appropriate law enforcement agency and, if indicated, any appropriate authorized agency or agencies. ... (b) The cabinet shall, to the extent practicable, support specialized multidisciplinary teams to investigate reports made under this chapter. This team may include law enforcement officers, social workers, Commonwealth's attorneys and county attorneys, representatives from other authorized agencies, medical professionals, and other related professionals with investigative responsibilities, as necessary. ...</p> <p>(11) The cabinet shall consult with local agencies and advocacy groups, including but not limited to long-term care ombudsmen, law enforcement agencies, bankers, attorneys, providers of nonemergency transportation services, and charitable and faith-based organizations, to encourage the sharing of information, provision of training, and promotion of awareness of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation, crimes against the elderly, and adult protective services. See also KRS § 209.140 (2014) All information ... shall not be divulged to anyone except: ... (2) Persons within the department or cabinet with a legitimate interest or responsibility related to the case; (3) Other medical, psychological, or social service agencies, or law enforcement agencies that have a legitimate interest in the case; ...</p>

MN	<p>Minn. Stat. § 626.5571 (2014) Subdivision 1. Establishment of team. --A county may establish a multidisciplinary adult protection team comprised of the director of the local welfare agency or designees, the county attorney or designees, the county sheriff or designees, and representatives of health care. In addition, representatives of mental health or other appropriate human service agencies, representatives from local tribal governments, and adult advocate groups may be added to the adult protection team. Subd. 2. Duties of team. --A multidisciplinary adult protection team may provide public and professional education, develop resources for prevention, intervention, and treatment, and provide case consultation to the local welfare agency to better enable the agency to carry out its adult protection functions under section 626.557 and to meet the community's needs for adult protection services. Case consultation may be performed by a committee of the team composed of the team members representing social services, law enforcement, the county attorney, health care, and persons directly involved in an individual case as determined by the case consultation committee. Case consultation is a case review process that results in recommendations about services to be provided to the identified adult and family. Subd. 3. Information sharing. --The local welfare agency may make available to members of the team for case consultation all records collected and maintained by the agency under section 626.557 and in connection with case consultation. Any member of the case consultation committee may share data, acquired in the member's professional capacity, with the committee to assist the committee in its function. Members prohibited from disclosing patient identifying information because of federal or state law shall seek consent from each patient or resident, or a guardian, conservator or legal representative, for the disclosure of appropriate data to the case consultation committee. ... Minn. Stat. § 626.557 Subd. 9b (2014)) ...shall exchange data...agency shall cooperate in coordinating its investigation with other agencies and may assist another agency upon request within the limits of its own resources and expertise and shall exchange data to the extent authorized in subdivision 12d, paragraph (g) ... Minn. Stat. § 626.557 Subd. 12b(g) (2014)) Lead investigative agencies,... may exchange not public data, ...if...the data are pertinent and necessary...</p>

MT	<p>52-3-805, MCA (2013) The county attorney or the department of public health and human services shall convene one or more temporary or permanent interdisciplinary adult protective service teams. These teams shall assist in assessing the needs of, formulating and monitoring a treatment plan for, and coordinating services to older persons and persons with developmental disabilities who are victims of abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The supervisor of adult protective services of the department of public health and human services or the department's designee shall serve as the team's coordinator. Members must include a social worker, a member of a local law enforcement agency, a representative of the medical profession, and a county attorney or the county attorney's designee, who is an attorney. Members may include other appropriate persons designated by the county attorney or the department. 52-3-813, MCA (2013) (1) The case records ... must be kept confidential ... (2) The records and reports ... may be disclosed, upon request, to the following persons or entities in this or any other state: (e) an adult protective service team. Members of the team are required to keep information about the subject individuals confidential.</p>
NV	<p>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 200.5098 (2014) ... 2. The Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department may organize one or more teams to assist in strategic assessment and planning of protective services, issues regarding the delivery of service, programs or individual plans for preventing, identifying, remedying or treating abuse, neglect, exploitation or isolation of older persons. Members of the team serve at the invitation of the Administrator and must be experienced in preventing, identifying, remedying or treating abuse, neglect, exploitation or isolation of older persons. The team may include representatives of other organizations concerned with education, law enforcement or physical or mental health. 3. The team may receive otherwise confidential information and records pertaining to older persons to assist in assessing and planning. The confidentiality of any information or records received must be maintained under the terms or conditions required by law. The content of any discussion regarding information or records received by the team pursuant to this subsection is not subject to discovery and a member of the team shall not testify regarding any discussion which occurred during the meeting. Any information disclosed in violation of this subsection is inadmissible in all judicial proceedings. (see also Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 200.5095 (2014) and Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 200.50982 (2014))</p>

NM	<p>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 27-7-17 (2013) B. The department shall ensure that the adult protective services system for incapacitated or protected adults who have been abused, neglected or exploited includes: (2) the establishment and use of multidisciplinary teams to develop treatment strategies, ensure maximum coordination with existing community resources and provide comprehensive assessment and case consultation on difficult or complex cases, provided that the adults' privacy and confidentiality rights in such cases are protected; (3) coordination among the various state or local agencies that serve incapacitated or protected adults; and ... C. Upon establishment of the adult protective services system, the department shall be responsible for continuing coordination and supervision of the system. In carrying out these duties, the department shall: (1) adopt rules necessary to implement and operate the system; see also N.M. Stat. Ann. § 27-7-29 (2013) All records of the department, the department's designee, including a multidisciplinary team, ...shall be confidential.... B. The records described in Subsection A of this section shall be open to inspection only by persons with a legitimate interest in the records as follows:... (see also N.M. Stat. Ann. § 27-7-19 (2013))</p>
OR	<p>ORS § 430.739 (2013) (1) The district attorney in each county shall be responsible for developing county multidisciplinary teams to consist of but not be limited to personnel from the community mental health program, the community developmental disabilities program, the Department of Human Services or a designee of the department, the Oregon Health Authority or a designee of the authority, the local area agency on aging, the district attorney's office, law enforcement and an agency that advocates on behalf of individuals with disabilities, as well as others specially trained in the abuse of adults. A district attorney may delegate the responsibility to develop a county multidisciplinary team under this subsection to a designee or administrator who is or will be a member of the team pursuant to a written agreement. (2) The teams shall develop a written protocol for immediate investigation of and notification procedures for cases of abuse of adults and for interviewing the victims. Each team also shall develop written agreements signed by member agencies that are represented on the team that specify: ... (5) All information obtained by the team members in the exercise of their duties is confidential. ORS § 124.090 (2013) (2) ..., the Department of Human Services or the department's designee may, if appropriate, make ...the reports and records compiled under ORS 124.050 to 124.095, available to: ...(c) A public agency or private nonprofit agency or organization providing protective services for the elderly person;... (see also ORS § 124.072 (2013) [exceptions to protected health information])</p>

UT	Utah Code Ann. § 62A-3-312 (2014) The database and the adult protection case file: (i) shall be made available to law enforcement agencies, the attorney general's office, city attorneys, and county or district attorney's offices; (ii) a multidisciplinary team approved by the division to assist Adult Protective Services in the evaluation, assessment, and disposition of a vulnerable adult case; (iii) an authorized person or agency providing services to, or responsible for, the care, treatment, assessment, or supervision of a vulnerable adult named in the report as a victim, when in the opinion of the division, that information will assist in the protection of, or provide other benefits to, the victim; (see also Utah Code Ann. § 67-5b-104 (2014) [MOU] Utah Code Ann. § 62A-3-303 (2014) In addition to all other powers and duties that Adult Protective Services is given under this part, Adult Protective Services: ... (8) shall be given access to, or provided with, written statements, documents, exhibits, and other items related to an investigation, including private, controlled, or protected medical or financial records of a vulnerable adult who is the subject of an investigation if:...(11) may require all officials, agencies, departments, and political subdivisions of the state to assist and cooperate within their jurisdictional power with the court, the division, and Adult Protective Services in furthering the purposes of this chapter; Utah Code Ann. § 62A-3-311.1 (2014) (1) The division shall maintain a database for reports of vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation made pursuant to this part. ... (3) Information obtained from the database may be used only: ... (iv) any government agency specifically authorized by statute to access or use the information in the database; ... (see also Utah Code Ann. § 62A-3-303 (2014))
WY	Wyo. Stat. § 35-20-104 (2014) (a) The department shall: (vi) Develop, facilitate and participate in local multidisciplinary community-based adult protection teams that discuss adult protection issues. Wyo. Stat. § 35-20-112 (2014) (a) Upon application made in the manner and form prescribed by the department, the department may give access to records otherwise confidential under this section to any of the following persons or agencies for purposes directly related with the administration of this act: ... (e) The department or investigating state agency may establish procedures to exchange with another state agency or governmental entity records that are necessary for the department, state agency or entity...
Two states and the District of Columbia permit joint investigations	

DC	D.C. Code § 7-1904 (2014) ... (3) If a report alleges the existence of an immediate, substantial risk of life-threatening harm to an adult in need of protective services, the Department shall immediately notify the police, who shall conduct a prompt investigation to determine the need for police intervention. In addition, within 24 hours of the Department's receiving such a report, an APS worker shall commence an investigation to determine the need for protective services. These 2 investigations may be conducted either jointly or separately. ...
GA	O.C.G.A. § 30-5-7 (2014) All records...shall be confidential; ...Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to deny agencies participating in joint investigations at the request of and with the department, or conducting separate investigations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation within an agency's scope of authority, or law enforcement personnel who are conducting an investigation into any criminal offense in which a disabled adult or elder person is a victim from having access to such records. [see also O.C.G.A. § 30-5-6 (2014)]
KS	K.S.A. § 39-1443 (2013) (b) Joint investigations . When a report of adult neglect, adult abuse, exploitation or fiduciary abuse indicates (1) that there is serious physical injury to or serious deterioration or sexual abuse or exploitation of the adult and (2) that action may be required to protect the adult, the investigation may be conducted as a joint effort between the department of social and rehabilitation services and the appropriate law enforcement agency or agencies, with a free exchange of information between such agencies. Upon completion of the investigation by the law enforcement agency, a full report shall be provided to the department of social and rehabilitation services. ... See also K.S.A. § 39-1436 (2013) [confidentiality and exceptions]
14 state statues contain language that unequivocally would permit the use of multidisciplinary teams and information sharing	

ID	<p>Idaho Code § 39-5307 (2014) Any person, department, agency or commission authorized to carry out the duties enumerated in this chapter shall have access to all relevant records, which shall be subject to disclosure according to chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code, and shall only be divulged with the written consent of the vulnerable adult or his legal representative. ... Idaho Code § 39-5308 (2014) In performing the duties set forth in this chapter, the commission or contractor may request the assistance of the staffs and resources of all appropriate state departments, agencies and commissions and local health directors, and may utilize any other public or private agencies, groups or individuals who are appropriate and who may be available. Interagency cooperation shall include the involvement, when appropriate, of law enforcement personnel, department personnel, medical personnel, and any other person or entity deemed necessary due to their specialized training in providing services to vulnerable adults. Interagency cooperation may also include access to client information necessary for the provision of services to vulnerable adults. ... (5) The commission, contractors and the department shall use interagency staffing when necessary and share client and facility information necessary to provide services to vulnerable adults.</p>

LA	<p>La. R.S. § 15:1507 (2014) H. (1) The adult protection agency shall have access to any records or documents, including client-identifying information and medical, psychological, criminal or financial records necessary to the performance of the agency's duties under this Chapter. The duties include the provision of protective services to an adult, or the investigation of abuse, neglect, exploitation or extortion of an adult. A person or agency that has a record or document that the adult protection agency needs to perform its duties under this Chapter shall, without unnecessary delay, make the record or document available to the agency. ... (5) Access to a confidential record under this Chapter does not constitute a waiver of confidentiality. No cause of action shall exist against any person or agency who in good faith provides a record or document to the adult protection agency under the provisions of this Chapter. ... I. (1) Information contained in the case records of the adult protection agency shall be confidential and shall not be released without a handwritten authorization from the adult or his legal representative, except that the information may be released to law enforcement agencies pursuing enforcement of criminal statutes related to the abuse of the adult or the filing of false reports of abuse or neglect, or to social service agencies, licensed health care providers, and appropriate local or state agencies where indicated for the purpose of coordinating the provision of services or treatment... (3) Prior to releasing any information, except information released to law enforcement agencies as provided herein, the adult protection agency shall edit the released information to protect the confidentiality of the reporter's identity and to protect any other individual whose safety or welfare may be endangered by disclosure. ... La. R.S. 15:1510 (2013) A. The adult protection agency may adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this Chapter. Specifically, such rules shall provide for cooperation with local agencies, including but not limited to hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes, and cooperation with other states. ... B. The adult protection agencies may enter into cooperative agreements with other state agencies or contractual agreements with private agencies to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. The immunity granted to the staff of the adult protection agencies shall extend to the staff of those agencies carrying out the provisions of this Chapter through cooperative or contractual agreement.</p>
MD	<p>Md. FAMILY LAW Code Ann. § 14-303 (2014) ... (3) Any agencies set out in this subsection may jointly agree to cooperative arrangements for investigation. ... (e) Sharing information. -- Parties participating in an investigation may share pertinent client information relevant to the investigation. ... See also Md. COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS Code Ann. § 5-618 (2014) Any person who ... participates in an investigation or in a judicial proceeding resulting from the filing of a petition or the making of a good faith report, ..., shall in so doing be immune from any civil liability or criminal penalty that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result thereof.</p>

MO	<p>§ 192.2415 R.S.Mo. (2014) The department shall provide for any of the following: ... or (6) The coordination and cooperation with other state agencies and public and private agencies in exchange of information and the avoidance of duplication of services. § 192.2435 R.S.Mo. (2014) 1. Reports made...shall be accessible for examination and copying only to the following persons or offices, or to their designees: (1) The department or any person or agency designated by the department; § 192.2505 R.S.Mo. (2014) ... Such records shall be accessible without court order for examination and copying only to the following persons or offices, or to their designees: (1) The department or any person or agency designated by the department for such purposes as the department may determine; ...</p>
NH	<p>RSA 161-F:56 (2014) In the course of an investigation conducted pursuant to this subdivision, the department's authorized representative may make any inquiries and obtain such information as is necessary to further such investigation. ... RSA 161-F:57 (2014) ... Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the disclosure of information gathered pursuant to an investigation to a service provider as may be necessary to devise or implement a service plan, ... to local law enforcement, the department of justice, or a county attorney, ...</p>

NY	<p>NY CLS Soc Serv § 473 (2014) 2. (a) In that the effective delivery of protective services for adults requires a network of professional consultants and services providers, local social services districts shall plan with other public, private and voluntary agencies including but not limited to health, mental health, aging, legal and law enforcement agencies, for the purpose of assuring maximum local understanding, coordination and cooperative action in the provision of appropriate services. ... (b) Each social services district shall prepare...a plan... This plan shall describe the local implementation of this section including the organization, staffing, mode of operations and financing of the adult protective services as well as the provisions made for purchase of services, inter-agency relations, inter-agency agreements, service referral mechanisms, and locus of responsibility for cases with multi-agency services needs. ... 4. ...authorize a maximum of five demonstration projects... NY CLS Soc Serv § 473-e (2014) 1. Reports made pursuant to this article, ..., shall be confidential and, except to persons, officers and agencies enumerated in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this subdivision, shall only be released with the written permission of the person who is the subject of the report, or the subject's authorized representative, except to the extent that there is a basis for non-disclosure of such information pursuant to subdivision three of this section. Such reports and information may be made available to: (b) a provider of services to a current or former protective services for adults client, where a social services official, or his or her designee determined that such information is necessary to determine the need for or to provide or to arrange for the provision of such services; ... or (g) any person considered entitled to such record in accordance with applicable law.</p>
ND	<p>N.D. Cent. Code, § 50-25.2-05 (2014) 1. ...the department or the department's designee may... c. Have access to all records of the vulnerable adult: (1) If the vulnerable adult, or the caregiver or legal representative of the vulnerable adult, has authorized the department or the department's designee to have access; ... d. Coordinate the assessment and the provision of other adult protective services with other state or local agencies, departments, or institutions, including the agency of the protection and advocacy project, or private agencies, organizations, and professionals providing services necessary or advisable for the vulnerable adult. N.D. Cent. Code, § 50-25.2-12 (2014) All reports ... are confidential, but must be made available to: ... 2. Authorized staff of the department or the department's designee, law enforcement agencies, and other agencies investigating, evaluating, or assessing the report or providing adult protective services.</p>

OK	<p>43A Okl. St. § 10-110 (2014) A. The reports, records, and working papers...are confidential and may be disclosed only pursuant to rules promulgated by the Commission for Human Services.... B. Department of Human Services agency records pertaining to a vulnerable adult may be inspected and their contents disclosed without a court order to the following persons upon showing of proper credentials and pursuant to their lawful duties:... C. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the Department from disclosing such confidential information as may be necessary to secure appropriate care, treatment or protection of a vulnerable adult alleged to be abused or neglected. See also 43A Okl. St. § 10-110.1 (2014) B. When a person responsible for the care of a vulnerable adult has been charged by information or indictment with committing a crime resulting in the death or near death of the vulnerable adult, there shall be a presumption that the best interest of the public is served by public disclosure of certain information concerning: ...</p>
RI	<p>R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66-4 (2014) (3) The department shall investigate reports of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect and shall provide and/or coordinate protective services. ... (c) To accomplish these objectives, the director is authorized: ... (2) To facilitate communications and the free flow of information between communities and the offices, agencies and employees of the state; (6) To coordinate those programs of other state agencies designed to assist in the solution of local, regional, and statewide problems concerning elderly persons; (9) To further the cooperation of local, state, federal and private agencies and institutions providing for services or having responsibility for elderly persons; R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66-10 (2014) Any records...shall be confidential. ..The director may, however, disclose to the attorney general, any local state; or federal police officials, appropriate courts, state departments, public or private agencies, or medical personnel, pertinent information that is necessary to investigate reports of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect, the coordination of needed services, the protection of the elderly victim or criminal prosecution.</p>
SC	<p>S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-60 (2013) Unless otherwise prohibited by law, a state agency, an investigative entity, and law enforcement may share information related to an investigation conducted as a result of a report made under this chapter. Information in these investigative records must not be disclosed publicly. S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-15 (2013) (C) ... The Adult Protective Services Program may promulgate regulations and develop policies, procedures, and memoranda of agreement to be used in reporting these incidents, in furthering its investigations, and in providing protective services. ... See also S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-20 (2013).</p>

TX	<p>Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 48.101 (2014) (f) The department or investigating state agency may establish procedures to exchange with another state agency or governmental entity information that is necessary for the department, state agency, or entity to properly execute its respective duties and responsibilities to provide services to elderly or disabled persons under this chapter or other law. An exchange of information under this subsection does not affect whether the information is subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. (g) The department may establish procedures to exchange with a community service provider or local governmental entity confidential information relating to a report made under Section 48.051(a) that is necessary for the department, provider, or entity to provide protective services, health care services, housing services, or social services to the person who is the subject of the report. An exchange of information under this subsection does not affect whether the information is subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 48.205 (2014) (c) The department and law enforcement officials, courts, and agencies shall cooperate when providing protective services. Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 48.1521 (2014) (a) The department shall develop and implement a system to ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, investigations conducted by the department that involve especially complex issues of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, such as issues associated with identity theft and other forms of financial exploitation, are: (1) assigned to personnel who have experience and training in those issues; and (2) monitored by a special task unit for complex cases.</p>
VA	<p>Va. Code Ann. § 63.2-1605 (2014) I. The report and evidence received by the local department and any written findings, evaluations, records, and recommended actions shall be confidential and shall be exempt from disclosure requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.), except that such information may be disclosed to persons having a legitimate interest in the matter in accordance with §§ 63.2-102 and 63.2-104 and pursuant to official interagency agreements or memoranda of understanding between state agencies. (see also Va. Code Ann. § 63.2-1606 (2014)). ... F. Local departments shall foster the development, implementation, and coordination of adult protective services.</p>

WA	<p>Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 74.34.035 (2014) (10) In conducting an investigation of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, self-neglect, or neglect, the department or law enforcement, upon request, must have access to all relevant records related to the vulnerable adult that are in the possession of mandated reporters and their employees, unless... Providing access to records relevant to an investigation by the department or law enforcement under this provision may not be deemed a violation of any confidential communication privilege. ... Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 74.34.063 (2014) (4) The department and law enforcement may share information contained in reports and findings of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, and neglect of vulnerable adults, consistent with RCW 74.04.060 , chapter 42.56 RCW, and other applicable confidentiality laws. Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 74.34.095 (2014) (2) Information considered confidential may be disclosed only for a purpose consistent with this chapter or as authorized by chapter 18.20, 18.51, or 74.39A RCW, or as authorized by the long-term care ombuds programs under federal law or state law, chapter 43.190 RCW. (see also Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 74.34.067 (2014))</p>
WV	<p>W. Va. Code § 9-6-3 (2014) The secretary shall direct the coordination of the investigation of complaints of abuse or neglect made pursuant to this article; and the various agencies of the department, the adult protective services system, the state and regional long-term care ombudsmen, administrators of nursing homes or other residential facilities, county prosecutors and any other applicable state or federal agency shall cooperate among each other for the purposes of observing, reporting, investigating and acting upon complaints of abuse or neglect of any incapacitated adult or facility resident in this State. W. Va. Code § 9-6-8 (2014) ...records... are confidential and may not be released, except in accordance with the provisions of section eleven [§ 9-6-11] of this article. (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or any other provision of this code to the contrary, summaries concerning substantiated investigative reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation of adults may be made available to: ... (4) Employees or agents of an agency of another state that has jurisdiction to investigate known or suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable adults. (5) A professional person when the information is necessary for the diagnosis and treatment of, and service delivery to, a vulnerable adult. ...</p>
16 states contain less explicit language, but still make some provisions for sharing information	

AK	Alaska Stat. § 47.24.050(a) (2014) ...investigation reports may be used by appropriate agencies or individuals inside and outside the state, in connection with investigations or judicial proceedings...
AZ	<p>A.R.S. § 41-1959(B) (2014) B. Employees of the department of economic security, the department of law and the court may obtain the information described in subsection A of this section in the performance of their duties as authorized by rules adopted by the director. C. Employees of the department of economic security, the department of law and the court may release any information which is otherwise held confidential under this section under any of the following circumstances: ... [see also A.R.S. § 46-457 (2014) [release of information]; A.R.S. § 46-454(E) A person having custody or control of medical or financial records of a vulnerable adult for whom a report is required or authorized under this section shall make such records, or a copy of such records, available to a peace officer or adult protective services worker investigating the vulnerable adult's neglect, exploitation or abuse on written request for the records signed by the peace officer or adult protective services worker. Records disclosed pursuant to this subsection are confidential and may be used only in a judicial or administrative proceeding or investigation resulting from a report required or authorized under this section. ... see also A.R.S. 41-1959(C): Employees of the department of economic security, the department of law and the court may release any information that is otherwise held confidential under this section under any of the following circumstances:</p> <p>A.R.S. 41-1959(C): Employees of the department of economic security, the department of law and the court may release any information that is otherwise held confidential under this section under any of the following circumstances:</p> <p>...(7) In any judicial or administrative proceeding involving an adult protective services client if the director of the department considers the information pertinent to the proceeding.</p>
AR	A.C.A. § 9-20-121(a) (2014) ...shall be confidential and shall not be released or otherwise made available except: ...

CT ¹	<p>Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-454 (2014) A covered entity, as defined in 45 CFR 160.103, shall disclose to the commissioner all relevant protected health information and other information about an elderly person that is necessary for the commissioner to investigate an allegation of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, provided the covered entity shall provide notice to such elderly person in accordance with subsection (c) of 45 CFR 164.512. If the commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that the elderly person is being abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, the commissioner may issue a subpoena to obtain protected health information or other information necessary to investigate the allegations of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment. The commissioner may request the Attorney General to petition the Superior Court for such order as may be appropriate to enforce the provisions of this section. The commissioner's authority shall include, but shall not be limited to, the right to initiate or otherwise take those actions necessary to assure the health, safety and welfare of any elderly person. ... see also Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-452 (2014) [confidentiality statute] See also Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-457 (2014) ... the Department of Social Services may request the assistance of...</p>
DE	<p>31 Del. C. § 3912 (2014) All records and information in the possession of Adult Protective Services or anyone providing service to an adult protective services client and the client's relatives shall be deemed confidential, and shall be disclosed only pursuant to an appropriate court order, or pursuant to the consent of the recipient of the services, where the recipient is legally competent to so consent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, disclosure shall not be unlawful when necessary for purposes directly connected with the administration of adult protective services, or when the identity of the recipient or recipients of such services is not revealed by the disclosure, such as in the case of disclosure of statistics or other such summary information.</p>
HI	<p>HRS § 346-225 (2014) ... The director may adopt, amend, or repeal rules, pursuant to chapter 91, to provide for the confidentiality of reports and records, and for the authorized disclosure of reports and records. ... [see also HRS § 346-225 (2014) and HRS § 346-249 (2014)]</p>

¹ As it read in 2013: Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-454 (2014) Any person, department, agency or commission authorized to carry out the duties enumerated in sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, shall have access to all relevant records, except that records which are confidential to an elderly person shall only be divulged with the written consent of the elderly person or the representative of such elderly person. ... see also Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-452 (2014) [confidentiality statute] See also Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-457 (2014) ... the Department of Social Services may request the assistance of... [the statute has changed from requiring written consent to share health records to providing notice to elderly person]

IN	<p>Burns Ind. Code Ann. § 12-10-3-15 (2014) [with written consent] ... are confidential and may be made available only to the individuals authorized in section 13 [IC 12-10-3-13]... Burns Ind. Code Ann. § 12-10-3-13 (2014). Records. ... The information maintained under this section shall be used solely for statistical purposes and must be available to law enforcement officials, state licensing agencies, and other officials and employees of municipal, county, and state government having a legitimate interest in the welfare of individuals who may be endangered adults or who have a legitimate interest in the operation of agencies or institutions providing care to individuals served under this chapter. ... see also Burns Ind. Code Ann. § 12-10-3-8 (2014) (B) Coordinate and cooperate with the division or other appropriate person to obtain protective services for the endangered adult, including the development of a plan in cooperation with the endangered adult, whereby the least restrictive protective services necessary to protect the endangered adult will be made available to the endangered adult.</p>
ME	<p>22 M.R.S. § 3474 (2014) 2. OPTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS. ... A. An agency responsible for investigating a report of adult abuse, neglect or exploitation when the investigation is authorized by statute or by an agreement with the department; ... 3. MANDATORY DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS. See also 22 M.R.S. § 3486 (2014) All other state and local agencies as well as private agencies receiving public funds shall cooperate with the department in rendering protective services on behalf of incapacitated and dependent adults.</p>

MI	MCLS § 400.11b (2014) (6) ... The county department also shall collaborate with law enforcement officers, courts of competent jurisdiction, and appropriate state and community agencies providing human services, which services are provided in relation to preventing, identifying, and treating adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation. ... (9) A representative from the department of human services, the department of state police, the department of attorney general, and the office of services to the aging, and an individual who is a representative of long-term care providers and is designated by the state attorney general, shall meet and develop a state model protocol for the investigation of vulnerable adult abuse cases. This state model protocol shall be developed not more than 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection. A county prosecuting attorney, in cooperation with the local county department and local law enforcement agencies, may adopt a local protocol for the investigation of vulnerable adult abuse cases that is based on the state model protocol. ... MCLS § 400.35 (2014) ... The state department of social services may promulgate and enforce rules for the use of the records as may be necessary for purposes related to federal, state, or local public assistance, pursuant to Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, as amended. (see also MCLS § 400.13 (2014) Reciprocal agreements with other states)
NE	R.R.S. Neb. § 28-377 (2014) Except as otherwise provided in sections 28-376 to 28-380, no person, official, or agency shall have access to the records ... shall include , but not be limited to: (1) A law enforcement agency investigating a report of known or suspected abuse; (2) A county attorney in preparation of an abuse petition; (3) A physician who has before him or her a person whom he or she reasonably suspects may be abused; (see also R.R.S. Neb. § 28-378 (2014))
NJ	N.J. Stat. § 52:27D-420 (2014) All records and communications ...are confidential. All third party information, together with the identities of the reporters, witnesses and the adults allegedly in need of protective services are confidential, except disclosures which may be necessary for the commissioner or the county adult protective services provider to perform his duties and to support any findings that may result from the evaluation of a report. (see also N.J. Stat. § 52:27D-410 (2014) e. Records...shall be made available to the county adult protective services provider.)

NC	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 108A-80 (2014) (d) The Social Services Commission may adopt rules governing access to case files for social services and public assistance programs, except the Medical Assistance Program. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services shall have the authority to adopt rules governing access to medical assistance case files. (see also N.C. Gen. Stat. § 108A-73 (2014) and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 108A-103(a) and (b) (2014))
OH	ORC Ann. 5101.61 (2014) (F) ... Information contained in the report shall upon request be made available ...to agencies authorized by the department to receive information contained in the report,
PA	35 P.S. § 10225.304 (2014) ... (d) ACCESS TO RECORDS.-- The agency shall have access to all records relevant to: ... (g) ACCESS BY CONSENT.-- The agency's access to confidential records held by other agencies or individuals and the agency's access to an older adult reported to be in need of protective services shall require the consent of the older adult or a court-appointed guardian except as provided for under this section or section 307. 35 P.S. § 10225.306 (2014) (a) GENERAL RULE.-- Information ... shall be considered confidential Except as provided below, this information shall not be disclosed to anyone outside the agency other than to a court of competent jurisdiction or pursuant to a court order. ... (b) LIMITED ACCESS TO THE AGENCY'S PROTECTIVE SERVICES RECORDS .-- (1) In the event that an investigation by the agency results in a report of criminal conduct, law enforcement officials shall have access to all relevant records maintained by the agency or the department. (2) In arranging specific services to carry out service plans, the agency may disclose to appropriate service providers such information as may be necessary to initiate the delivery of services.
VT	33 V.S.A. § 6911 (2014) (a) Information obtained through reports and investigations, including the identity of the reporter, shall remain confidential and shall not be released absent a court order, except as follows: ...

WI	Wis. Stat. § 55.043 (2014) (6) (b) Departmental report forms are confidential and may not be released by the adult-at-risk agency or other investigative agency, except under the following circumstances: 6. To any agency or individual that provides direct services under sub. (4), including an attending physician for purposes of diagnosis, examination, and treatment, and within the department to coordinate treatment for mental illness, developmental disabilities, alcoholism, or drug abuse of individuals committed to or under the supervision of the department. Information obtained under this subdivision shall remain confidential. ... 8. To law enforcement officials in accordance with the policy developed under sub. (1g) (a)(bt) 11. To an agency, including a probation or parole agency, that is legally responsible for the supervision of an alleged perpetrator of abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of an adult at risk. (see also Wis. Stat. § 55.22 (2014))
Five states are relatively silent on the issue of information sharing	
AL	Code of Ala. § 38-9-8(b) (2014) All reports prepared by a law enforcement official shall be forwarded to the county department of human resources within 24 hours.
MA	ALM GL ch. 19A, § 16 (2014) Subject to appropriation, the department shall develop a coordinated system of protective services for elderly persons who are determined to be abused. In planning this system, the department shall require input from other protective service agencies and other agencies currently involved in the provision of social, health, legal, nutritional and other services to the elderly, as well as elderly advocacy organizations. ... (e) The department shall be responsible for continuing coordination and supervision of the system. In carrying out these duties, the department shall, subject to appropriation: (1) adopt rules and regulations for the system; (2) continuously monitor the effectiveness of the system and perform evaluative research about it; and (3) utilize grants from federal, state and other public and private sources to support the system. (see also ALM GL ch. 19A, § 16 (2014))

MS	Miss. Code Ann. § 43-47-9 (2014) (2) The staff and physicians of local health departments, mental health clinics and other public or private agencies, including law enforcement agencies, shall cooperate fully with the department in the performance of its duties. ... Miss. Code Ann. § 43-47-23 (2014) The department and the court are authorized to seek the cooperation of all public agencies, departments, societies, organizations or agencies having for their object the protection or aid of vulnerable persons. These agencies, departments, societies and organizations shall provide any such assistance as is necessary.
SD	S.D. Codified Laws § 28-1-45 (2014) The secretary may promulgate reasonable and necessary rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, for the administration and operation of the program for adults and the elderly relating to the following areas: ... (11) Adult protective services; ... (see also S.D. Codified Laws § 28-1-44 (2014) and S.D. Codified Laws § 28-1-45.1 (2014) [confidentiality]; see also S.D. Codified Laws § 22-46-5 (2014)) In investigating violations of this chapter, law enforcement agencies shall cooperate with and assist the Department of Social Services.
TN	Tenn. Code Ann. § 71-6-103 (2014) (5) Any records received by the department, the confidentiality of which is protected by any other statute or regulation, shall be maintained as confidential pursuant to such statutes or regulations, except for such use as may be necessary in the conduct of any proceedings pursuant to its authority pursuant to this part or title 33 or 34. ... Tenn. Code Ann. § 71-6-113 (2014) It is the legislative intent that the departments of mental health and substance abuse services, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and health, or their successor agencies, shall assist the department of human services with providing the services required under this part. (see also Tenn. Code Ann. § 71-6-115 (2014)) Tenn. Code Ann. § 71-6-118 (2014) (2) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), the department may report to law enforcement or public health authorities any information from its investigations or records regarding illness, disease or injuries obtained in the course of its investigation.