

# CPS Investigator

## Demographics and Background

- You are the CPS investigator assigned to the Sammi Green case.
- You have been in this position for only three months.
- This case is your first case alleging sexual abuse, so you seek the input of your supervisor for case management planning (what to do, when, etc.)
- Unknown to most people, including your supervisor, you were sexually abused as a child by your mother's then paramour. Your mother did not believe the allegations and chose to remain with the paramour after your disclosure.

## Authority/Responsibilities

### Your responsibilities are:

1. Investigate to determine if a child experienced abuse or neglect per your jurisdiction's statutes.
2. Activate any and all relevant multidisciplinary team members to facilitate the investigation (e.g. law enforcement.)
3. Ensure that all relevant children are protected and safe from harm. Safety determinations must be made immediately.

4. Petition Family Court for emergency custody or change of placement if all relevant children are not protected in their home environment.
5. Develop a safety plan and/or find alternative placements for all relevant children as needed.
6. Assess the family for needed services.
7. You must submit a finding of substantiated or unsubstantiated within timeframes set by your jurisdiction.

## Character Development Tips

### Module #3

- In this module, you will first “observe” a Forensic Interview
- Following the forensic interview, the MDT members will take turns sharing information relevant to their roles in the investigation. The team will work together to evaluate information that comes from the interview and will identify next steps.
- Following this initial meeting, the family advocate will invite the caregiver into the post-interview meeting. You will introduce yourself and the role you play in the investigation, as MDT members take turns sharing their planned next steps, from their areas of expertise.

- You might explain possible next steps such as referring Sammi for a SAFE-CARE Exam, completing follow-up home visits, and completing documentation around your evidence findings.
- Be sure to ask other MDT members any questions you have about the information that they provide during the meeting, and respond to any questions the NOC may have for you.

### **Information you can now share:**

- Any of the above, and information that arises from the interview that would be relevant to your role as a child protection investigator.