

DMH ABUSE AND NEGLECT

INVESTIGATION/DISPOSITION PROCESS:

The Regional Director/DD Superintendent or other Department designee shall determine those cases in which an investigation is warranted, and shall refer those complaints and reports of physical, sexual or verbal abuse, neglect or misuse of funds/property to the DMH-DD investigations unit.

The investigator reviews the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegation and interviews persons having knowledge relative to the allegation. Once interviews are completed, the investigator writes the investigative report and forwards it to the Investigative Unit for review. Following internal review, the final report and a list of systematic considerations with regard to the outcome of the investigation is forwarded to the Regional Director/DD Superintendent or other Department designee, who is the determiner for disposition of the complaint.

Specific guidelines and timelines for the determiner's actions following receipt of the final investigative report are set forth in DOR 2.210 and DOR 2.205.

Once the determiner has reached a final decision regarding the complaint, the alleged perpetrator may appeal the decision to the Department Hearings Administrator. If there is no appeal, the decision of the determiner (Regional Director, Superintendent or other Department designee) is final. Please refer to [DOR 2.205](#) and [DOR 2.210](#) for more specific information regarding further procedures and consequences for substantiated complaints.