



Child Abuse Investigative Support Center

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center was established by the GBI on August 16, 2000 to assist law enforcement, child protective services, and district attorneys with the investigation of physical and sexual abuse of children. The Center's mission is to render support services to all agencies involved in the investigation of child maltreatment.

The center provides consultations as an investigative tool as well as expert testimony when necessary. In addition, the center conducts training for any organization free of charge.

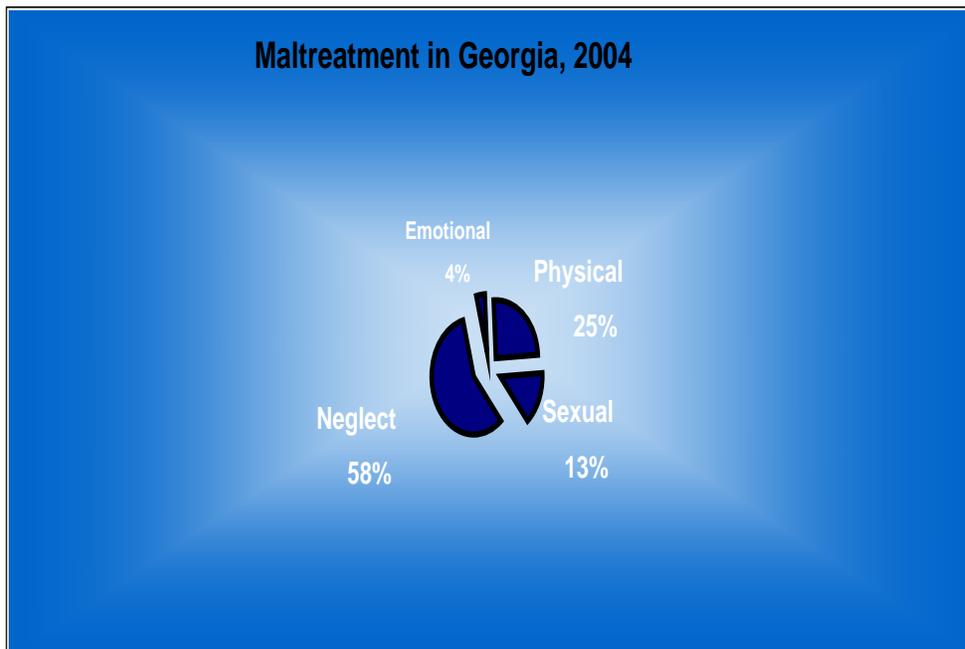
Forensic and Investigative Consultations

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center provides forensic medical consultations in which injuries are evaluated. The child's injuries, medical records, and the social/home environment are reviewed during the consultation. After evaluation, an expert opinion is rendered and a letter detailing the accidental or inflicted nature of the injuries is provided. Expert testimony regarding the opinion is also available as needed.

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center has 15 regional child abuse specialists, one within each of the GBI Regional Field Offices. These agents are available at the request of the district attorney, the police chief, or the sheriff and can provide numerous avenues of assistance with an investigation, including forensic interviews and scene investigations.

Training

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center provides training on a variety of topics to any organization involved in child care. This training can be conducted at any location and is free of charge. The program coordinator regularly trains child care personnel to recognize abusive injuries while medical examiners are available for training regarding patterned injuries, forensic evidence in child homicides, and drug-endangered children. Child Abuse Specialists are available for training regarding profiles of child sex offenders, child abduction and homicide, and interviewing victims.



Personnel

Dr. Lora Darrisaw

Board Certified Medical Examiner and Pediatric Specialist

Beoncia Loveless

Program Coordinator and Board Certified Medicolegal Death Investigator

Dean McManus

Assistant Special Agent in Charge

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