

## CHILD ABUSE

calling should provide the Legal Department with the individual's full name, date of birth and, if applicable, date of baptism. After speaking with the Legal Department, the caller will be transferred to the Service Department.

- 9. Prison Inmates:** Two elders should *immediately* call the Legal Department regarding any prison inmate, baptized or unbaptized, who has been accused of child abuse and who is now associating with a congregation. This would include his attending congregation meetings held in the prison. In some cases, elders may not be permitted to inquire about the offense that an inmate may have committed. However, if the elders learn that the alleged offense has to do with child abuse, they should *immediately* call the Legal Department.
- 10. Child Pornography and Sexting:** If the elders become aware of an adult associated with a congregation who has been involved with child pornography, two elders should *immediately* call the Legal Department. Likewise, if the elders become aware of an adult or a minor associated with a congregation who is sexting with a minor, the Legal Department should be called *immediately*. The Legal Department does not need to be informed when the elders receive reports of adults sexting one another.

## CONGREGATION CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.** When discussing child sexual abuse from a congregation standpoint, we are not considering a situation in which a minor who is a willing participant and who is approaching adulthood is involved in sexual activity with an adult who is a few years older than the minor. Nor, generally speaking, are we discussing situations in which only minors are involved. (See 14:29-30.) Rather, we are referring to an adult guilty of sexually abusing a minor who is a young child, or an adult guilty of sexual involvement with a minor who is approaching adulthood but was not a willing participant.