



Michigan's Safe Delivery of Newborns Law

Safe Delivery Communications Toolkit

SAFE. LEGAL. CONFIDENTIAL.





BACKGROUND

Safe Delivery of Newborns Law

In 2000, infant abandonment was identified as an increasing problem throughout Michigan. Stories of newborn babies abandoned in public places were being reported by the media. Responding to this increase in infant abandonment, Michigan lawmakers enacted the Safe Delivery of Newborns law (effective January 1, 2001 and amended the law in 2002, 2003, 2006, and 2010) which:

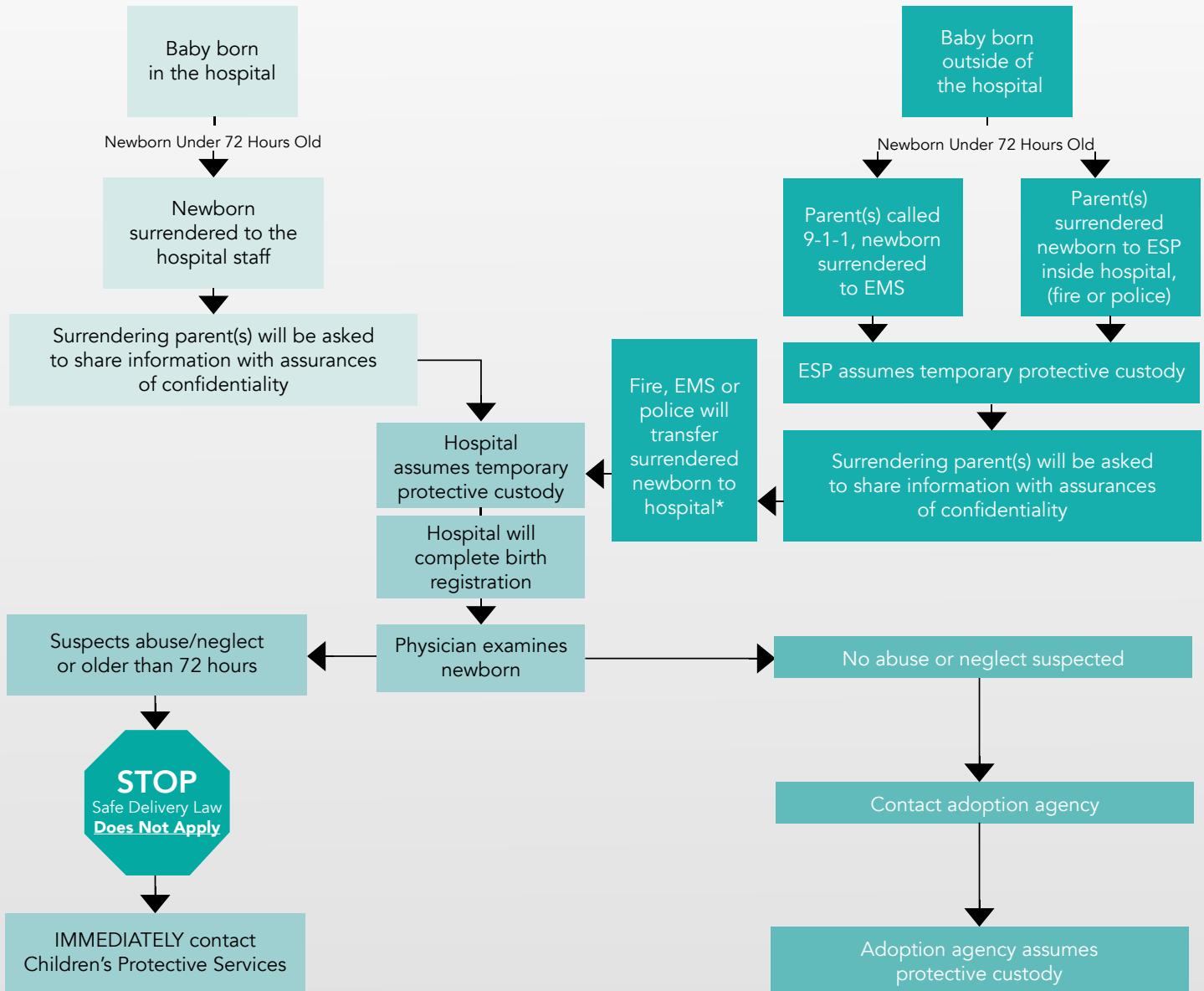
- Creates a legal way for the parent(s) to surrender a newborn to an emergency service provider (ESP) within 72 hours of birth anonymously or with assurances of confidentiality.
- Defines an ESP as a uniformed or otherwise identified employee or contractor of a fire department, hospital, or police station when that individual is inside the premises and on duty. An ESP also includes a paramedic or an emergency medical technician (EMT) when either of those individuals is responding to a **9-1-1** emergency call.
- Focuses on achieving permanency for the newborn by an immediate placement with a prospective adoptive parent who has an approved preplacement assessment.

All 50 states now have some version of the Safe Delivery law. For more information, call **888-510-BABY (888-510-2229)** or visit the National Safe Haven Alliance at www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org.

SAFE DELIVERY IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR RELEASING A CHILD FOR ADOPTION UNDER MICHIGAN'S ADOPTION CODE.

Surrender Procedure

Emergency Service Provider Safe Delivery Flowchart



*ESP will accompany surrendered newborn and provide information for the transfer of custody to the hospital.

Safe Delivery Communications Toolkit: Promoting Public and Professional Awareness



866.733.7733
Michigan.gov/SafeDelivery



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