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*Idaho Law:*

The Idaho Safe Haven Act was passed in 2001. It is intended to provide a safe alternative for parents who might otherwise abandon their baby. If a parent delivers the baby to a safe haven, the parent can remain anonymous, they can be assured the baby will be cared for and they will not be prosecuted for child abandonment.

A safe haven, as defined by the Idaho Safe Haven Act, is immune from civil or criminal liability that otherwise might result from their actions, if they are acting in good faith in receiving a child and performing duties under this act.

- I. The following are included in Idaho’s defined Safe Havens
  - A. Hospitals
  - B. Licensed physicians and staff working at their offices
  - C. Advanced practice nurses, including CRNAs, Nurse Practitioners
  - D. First responders and EMTs when making an emergency response to a “911” call from a custodial parent
  
- II. Responsibility of a Safe Haven
  - A. The laws allows a safe haven to take temporary physical custody of a child, without a court order, if the child is **personally** delivered to the safe haven **IF**
    - 1. The child is no more than 30 days of age; and
    - 2. The parent personally delivers the child to the safe haven; and
    - 3. The parent does not express intent to return for the child.
  
- III. Procedure
  - A. Custodial parent delivers child to Safe Haven within 30 days of birth and does not express intent to return for the child
  - B. Safe Haven provides aid to protect physical health and safety
    - 1. Do not ask for identity of the parent and if known, keep it confidential
    - 2. Accept any voluntary information given by the parent regarding the health/birth history of the parent of child
    - 3. Perform a medical screening of child to identify any immediate medical needs (hypothermia, fever, dehydration, etc).
    - 4. Contact the Idaho County Sheriff Department or Grangeville Police Department (208) 983-1100.
    - 5. Notify Health & Welfare – Child Protective Services (CPS) 24 hour phone line. (208) 983-2522
    - 5. Maintain safe, warm environment for the child until law enforcement (CPS) arrives
    - 6. Relinquish the child to the law enforcement officer/CPS
    - 7. Record the Safe Haven occurrence on an ER/OPD record and include:
      - a. Limited demographic information, such as “Female Baby child” and include description (hair color, gender, etc);

- b. Vital signs and other medical screening findings;
- c. Treatments and care provided;
- d. Time child received; time law enforcement notified; time law enforcement arrived; time child relinquished to law enforcement/CPS;
- e. Any birth or medical information regarding the child as provided by the custodial parent.