

[NH RSA 132-A](#) and [RSA PART He 6492](#) provides a mechanism for parents to surrender infants up to 7 days old at locations and facilities that are capable of temporarily safeguarding the infant. These locations and facilities include licensed hospitals and “Safe Havens” defined as houses of worship and emergency 911 responders including fire departments, police departments, ambulances, and rescue units. (A station that is not staffed is not an acceptable drop off location according to the law.) First Responders may also receive the infant at an agreed transfer location other than their stationhouse.

**Procedure:**

- Upon receiving physical custody of the infant, examine the child and provide any treatment necessary according to the appropriate clinical protocol(s).
- Complete a Patient Care Record and include the following:
  - Date and time infant was surrendered.
  - Infant’s gender and date of birth (if known).
  - Name of physician/midwife present at delivery (if known).
  - Any information willingly provided by the parent(s) such as their names, addresses, medical information and other family information.
  - Examination findings and treatment provided.
- Transport infant to the local hospital.

**Reporting Requirements:**

Both the Department for Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and local police must be notified within 24 hours:

- Call DCYF at 1-800-894-5533, available 24 hours/day; if out-of-state: 603-271-6556.

NOTE: Regardless of other agency’s involvement, EMS is mandated to notify DCYF.

**Post Surrender Requests:**

If the parent or other person contacts EMS after the infant is surrendered and wants the infant returned, instruct the person to contact DCYF immediately. The request will be referred to the family division of the circuit court.

*EMS may bill the NH Department of Health and Human Services for all necessary medical or other costs incurred while assuming care of the infant within 90 days of the infant’s surrender.*