Child protection professionals who encounter suspected animal abuse often do not know how to report their suspicions to the appropriate agency.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, which supervises the state’s municipal animal control officers, created this form for Department of Children and Families caseworkers to sue to submit a report.

It could easily be modified for other agencies—such as adult protective services, domestic violence, veterinary, and other disciplines. We present it here as a model for you to use.

Remember: just as with reporting child or elder abuse, a reporter does not have to prove it: he or she merely needs to suspect it, and report it to the appropriate agency which will then investigate the situation further.