# AB 506 TRAINING – PASTORS & ADMINISTRATORS

February 23, 2022

This training covers the topics that help you understand how to fulfill the requirements of AB 506, it is NOT the mandatory training in child abuse and neglect identification and reporting

### **TOPICS**

- 1. Overview of AB 506 Greg
- 2. Training Requirements Shanon
- 3. Background Check Requirements Shanon
- 4. Policies & Procedures Requirements Greg

- What is AB 506?
- To whom does the new law apply?
- What action is required by the new law?
- What is a 'Youth Service Organization'?
- How does the new law create Insurance Carrier involvement?

### Who are the mandated reporters?

- There are 49 types of people listed in the Penal Code
- Includes, teachers, instructional aides, social workers,
- A clergy member, as specified in subdivision (d) of Section 11166. As used in this article, "clergy member" means a priest, minister, rabbi, religious practitioner, or similar functionary of a church, temple, or recognized denomination or organization....
- Other mandated reporters at a church:
  - Paid youth pastors, youth leaders or children's ministers;
  - Paid teachers; and
  - Paid child care workers.
- Basically, anyone the church pays to work with children or youth is a mandated reporter. If the church operates a full time school or full time day care program, then most employees of those programs are mandated reporters.

What do the mandated reporters need to report?

"A mandated reporter shall make a report to an agency specified . . . whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect." (Penal Code § 11166(a).)

### What if a mandated reporter fails to report?

### CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

- Six months county jail plus \$1,000 fine
- 12 months county jail plus \$5,000 if failure to report resulted in death or great bodily injury (Penal Code § 11166.01)

### CIVIL LIABILITY

- You can be sued & face money judgment. (*Landeros v. Flood* (1975) 17 Cal.3d 399; Penal Code § 11172)

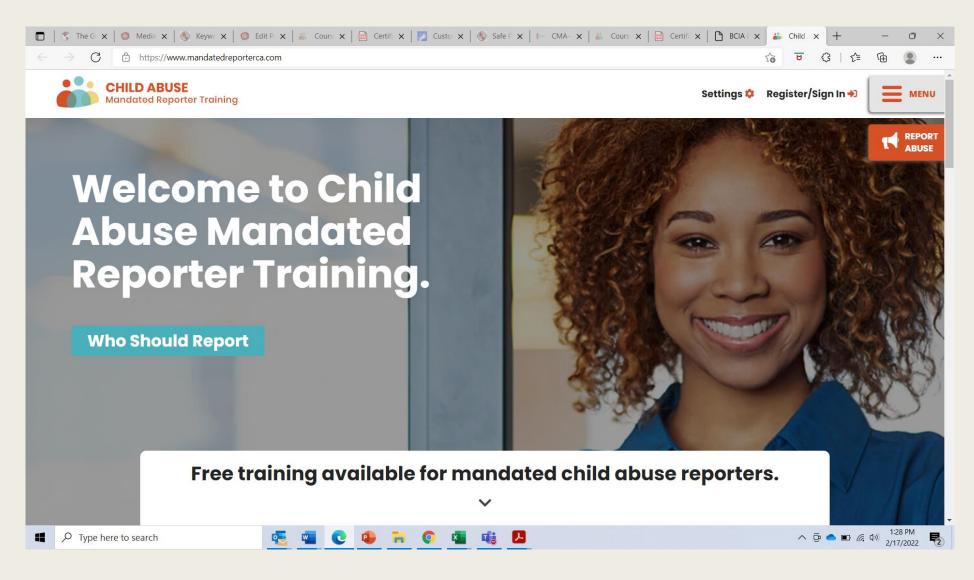
### **■ PROFESSIONAL SANCTIONS**

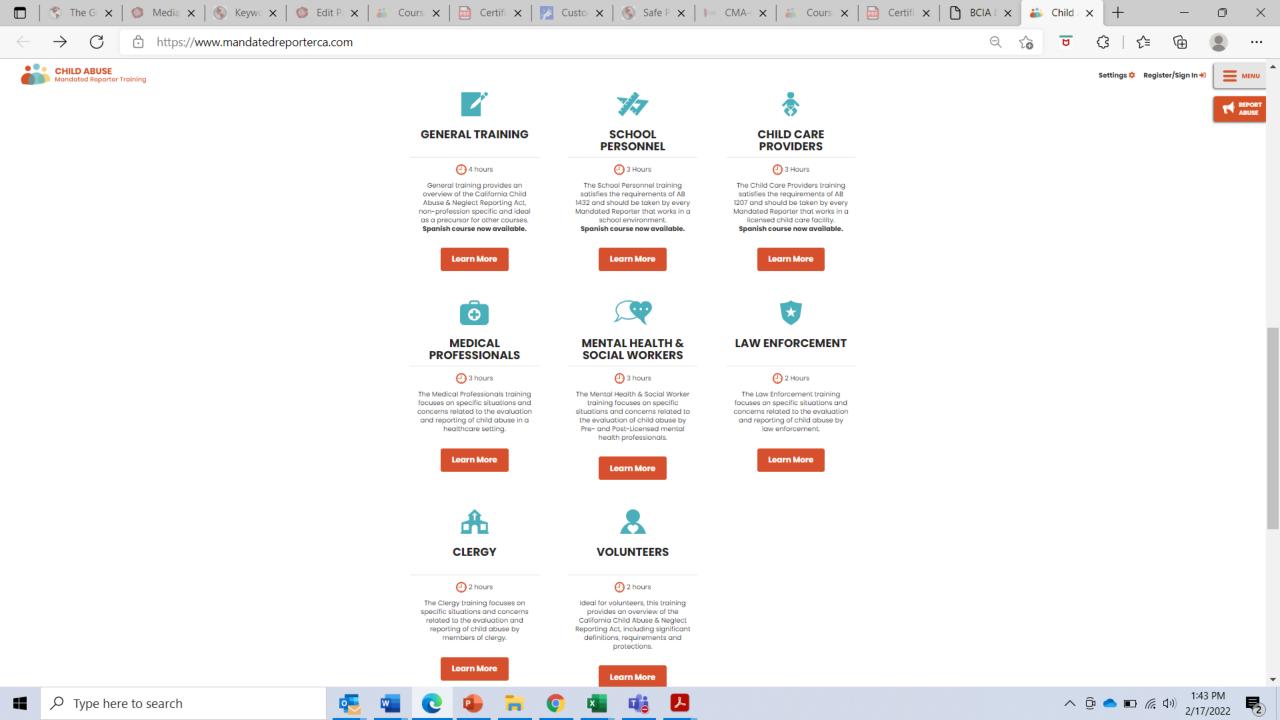
Loss of license and/or employment

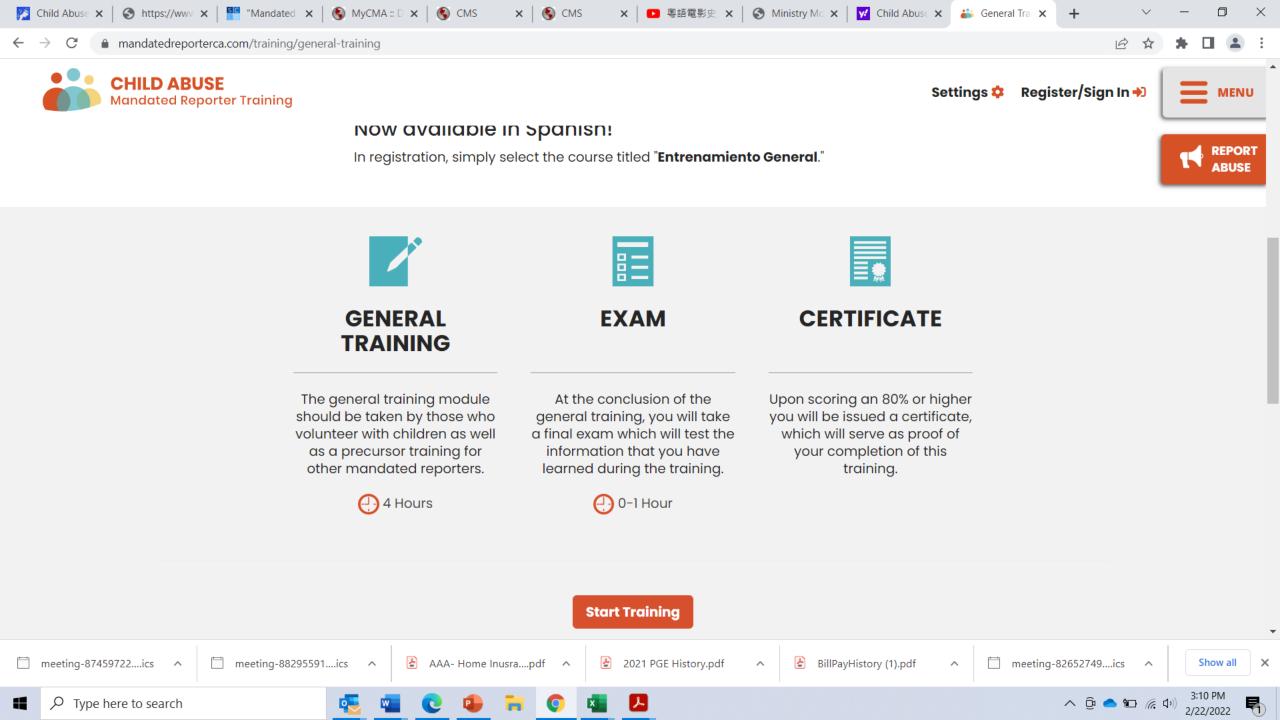
(a) An administrator, employee, or regular volunteer of a youth service organization shall complete training in child abuse and neglect identification and training in child abuse and neglect reporting. The training requirement may be met by completing the online mandated reporter training provided by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Social Services.

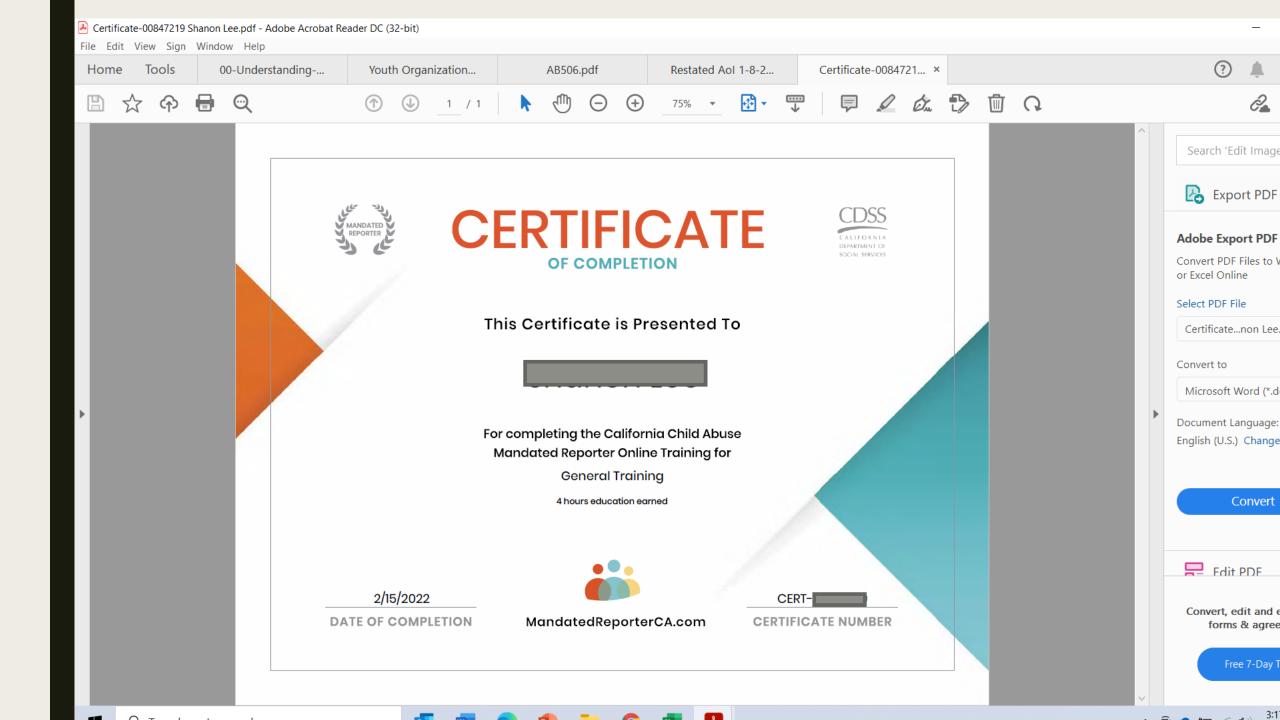
- "Regular volunteer" means a volunteer with the youth service organization who is:
- 18 years of age or older,
- who has direct contact with, or supervision of, children for more than 16 hours per month or 32 hours per year.

- AB506 does not provide specific guidance (list of topics, length of training, delivered live or online, frequency of retraining, requirement of a quiz, record keeping process, etc.), it does note that organizations may utilize the mandated reporter training provided by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Social Services.
- Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training (mandatedreporterca.com)









# General Training – 4 hours

### This training is required by law and covers:

- How the law defines child abuse and neglect
- What the law requires of you as a mandated reporter
- What protections the law provides for a mandated reporter
- How to spot evidence of child abuse
- How to report child abuse
- What happens after a report is filed
- Definitions of some of the terms used in this program

# Clergy Training – 2 hours

This profession specific training supplements the General Training and covers:

- What to do if you acquire knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect
- How to talk to children about suspected abuse
- Special issues related to child abuse reporting for clergy members
- How to file a report
- What happens after a report is filed
- How to overcome obstacles to reporting

# Volunteer Training – 2 hours

# This training does NOT require completion of General Training and covers:

- How the law defines child abuse and neglect
- What the law requires of you as a mandated reporter
- What protections the law provides for a mandated reporter
- How to spot evidence of child abuse
- How to report child abuse
- What happens after a report is filed

# Training Requirements - Recommendations

- Utilize the mandated reporter training provided by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State
   Department of Social Services
- If taken individually, ask the individual to take the test and get the certificate, church should keep a copy of the certificate for record
- If taken in a group format, keep the attendance sheet as proof of attendance
- Offer training once in 2022 and when have new employee(s) / regular volunteer(s)

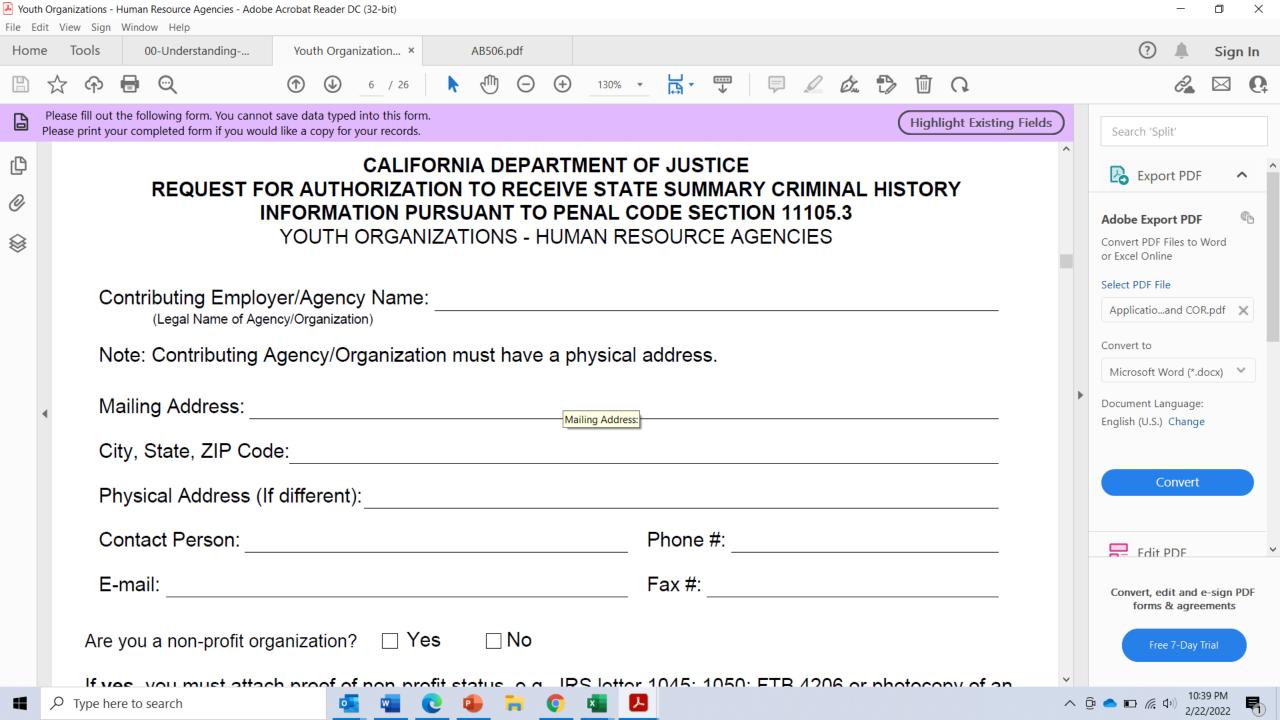
# 3. Background Check Requirements

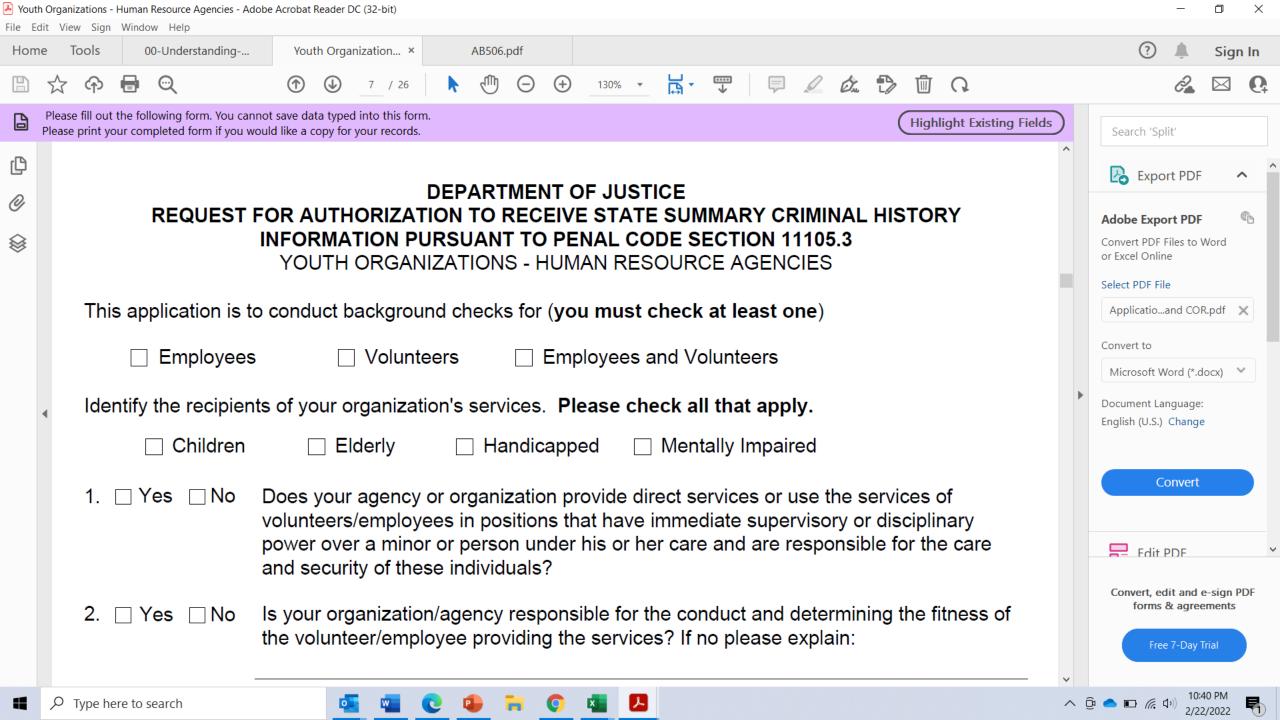
- (b) An administrator, employee, or regular volunteer of a youth service organization shall undergo a background check which includes:
  - All convictions & arrests pending adjudication from the CA Dept of Justice
  - Must include fingerprinting

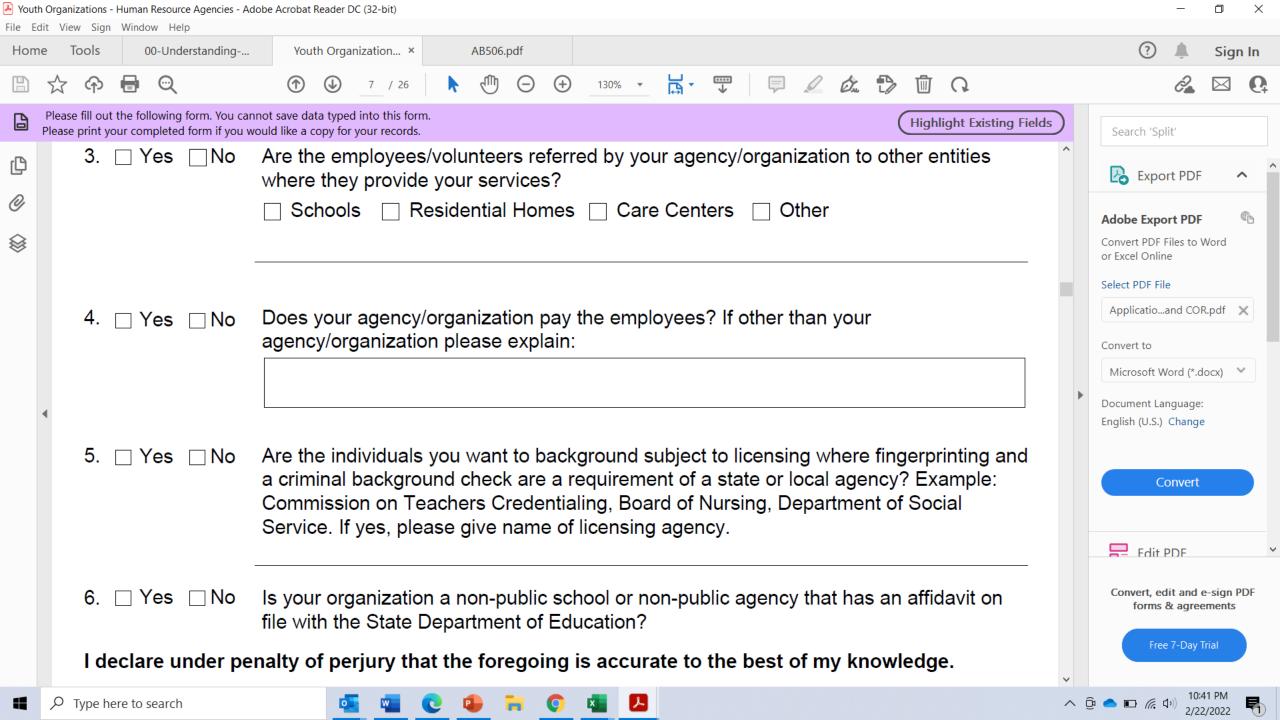
# 3. Background Check Requirements

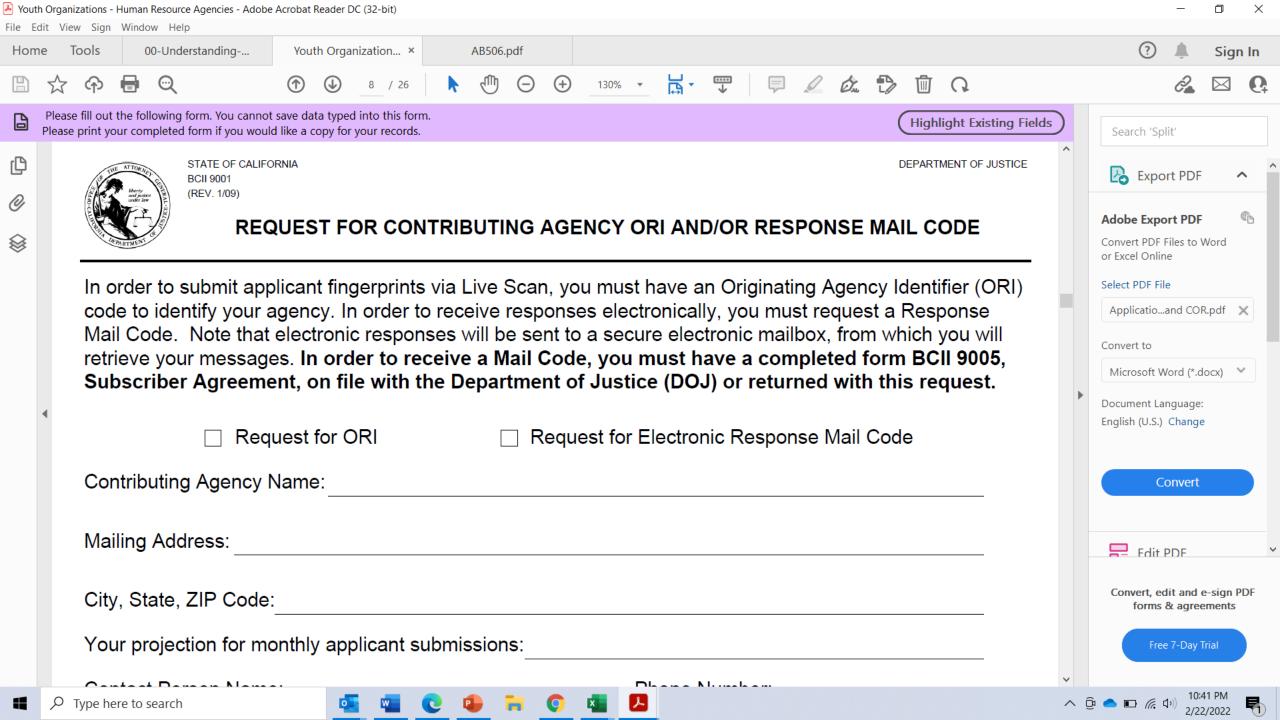
To process fingerprint-based background responses, an agency needs to designate one or more individuals as Custodian of Records (COR).

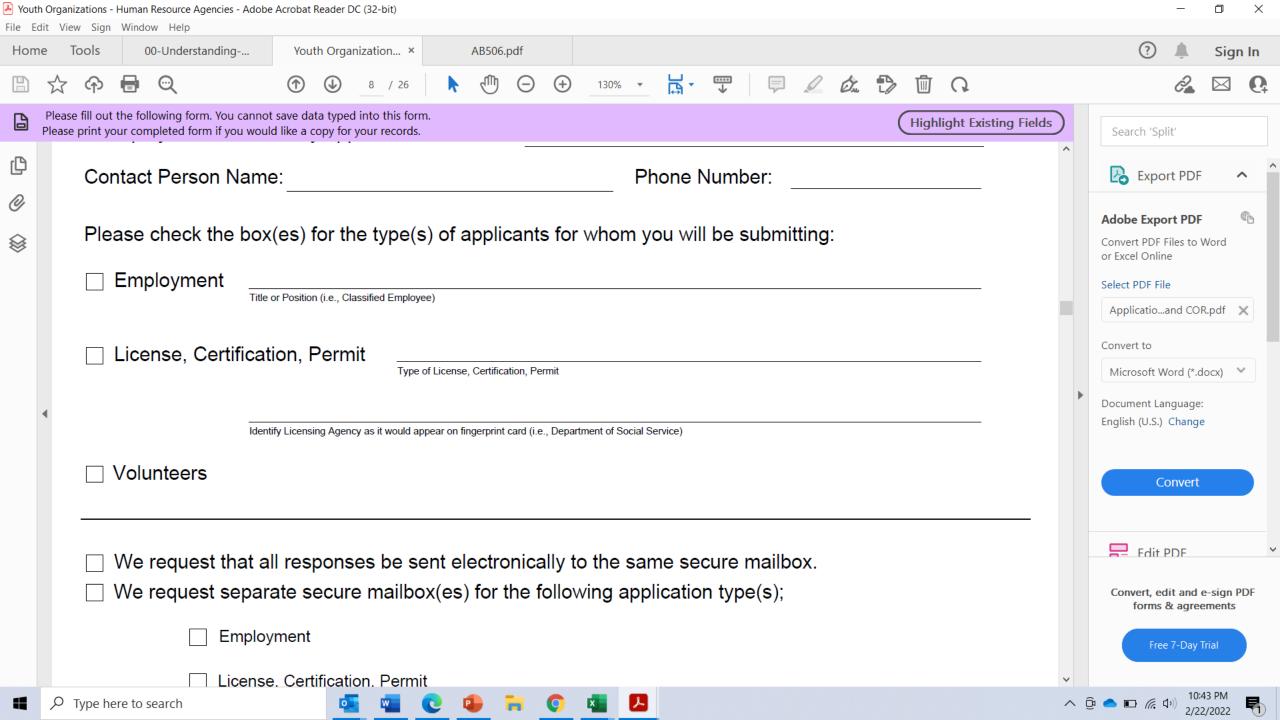
- have undergone a state and federal criminal record background check for their agency,
- responsible for the hiring decisions, and for the security, storage, dissemination, and destruction of the criminal records furnished to the agency,
- serve as the primary contact for the DOJ for any related issue,
- at least 18 years old,
- Complete and submit the Custodian of Records Application Form (BCIA 8374)

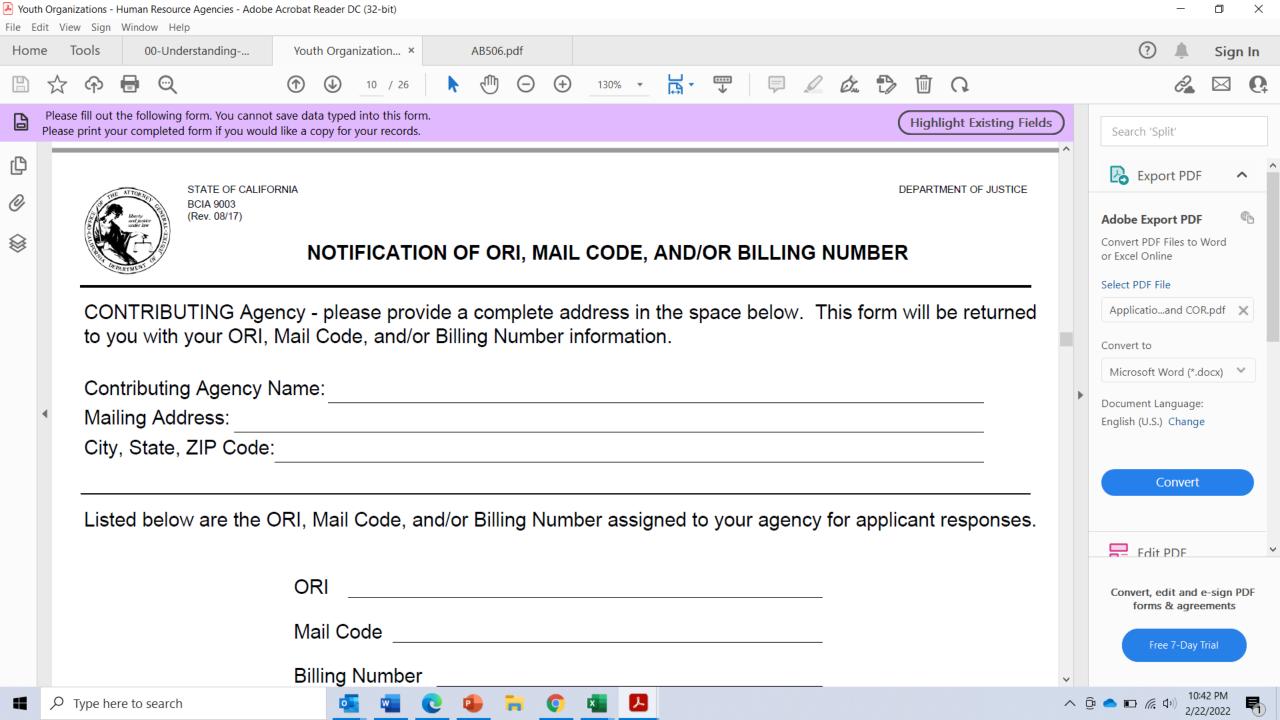


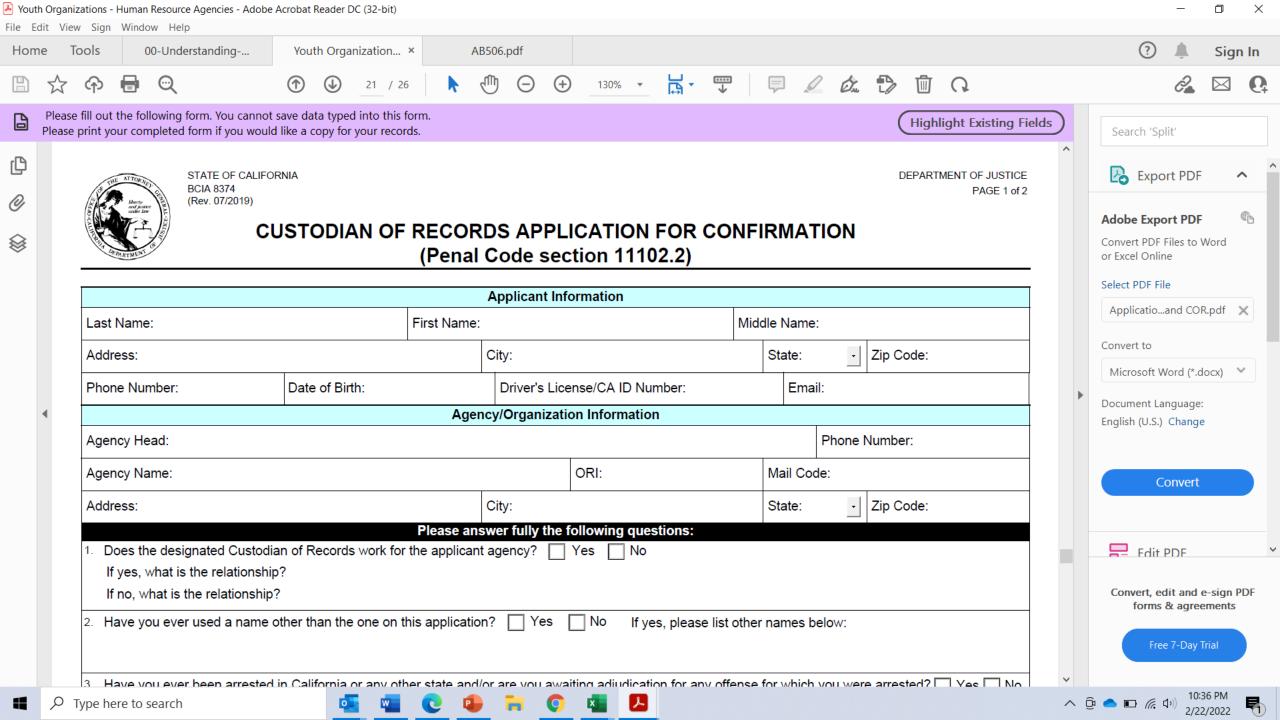


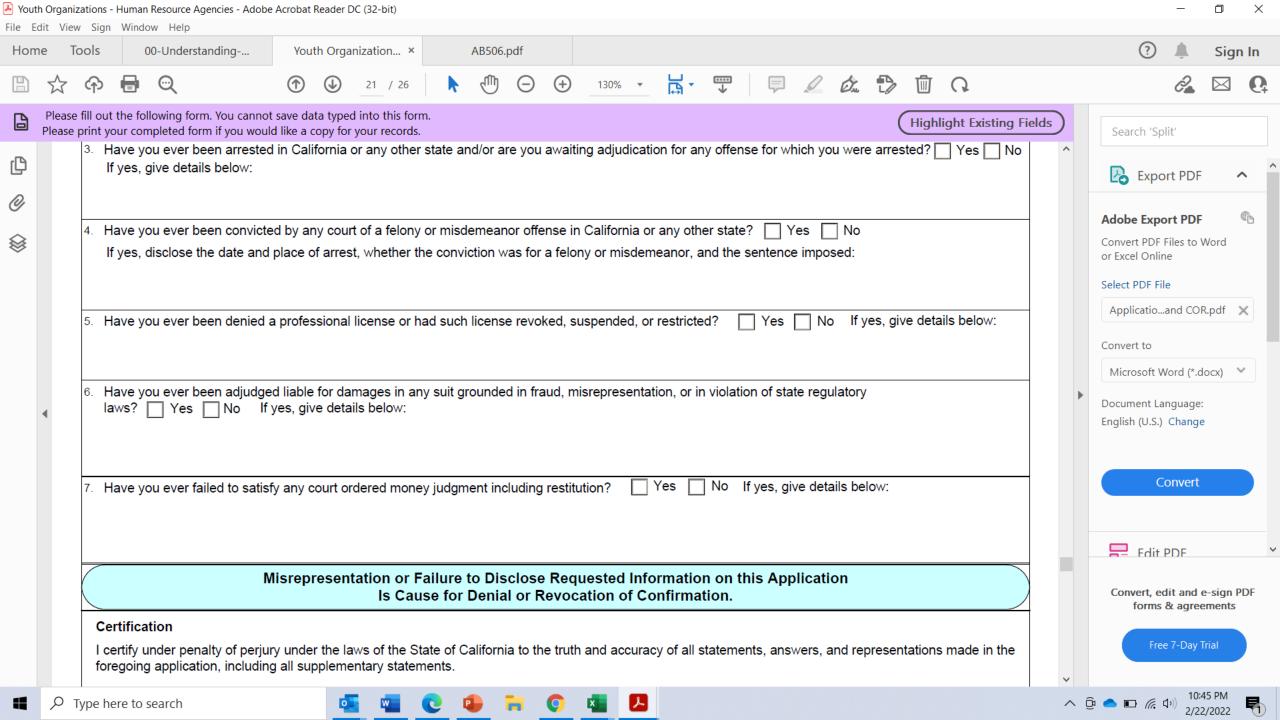


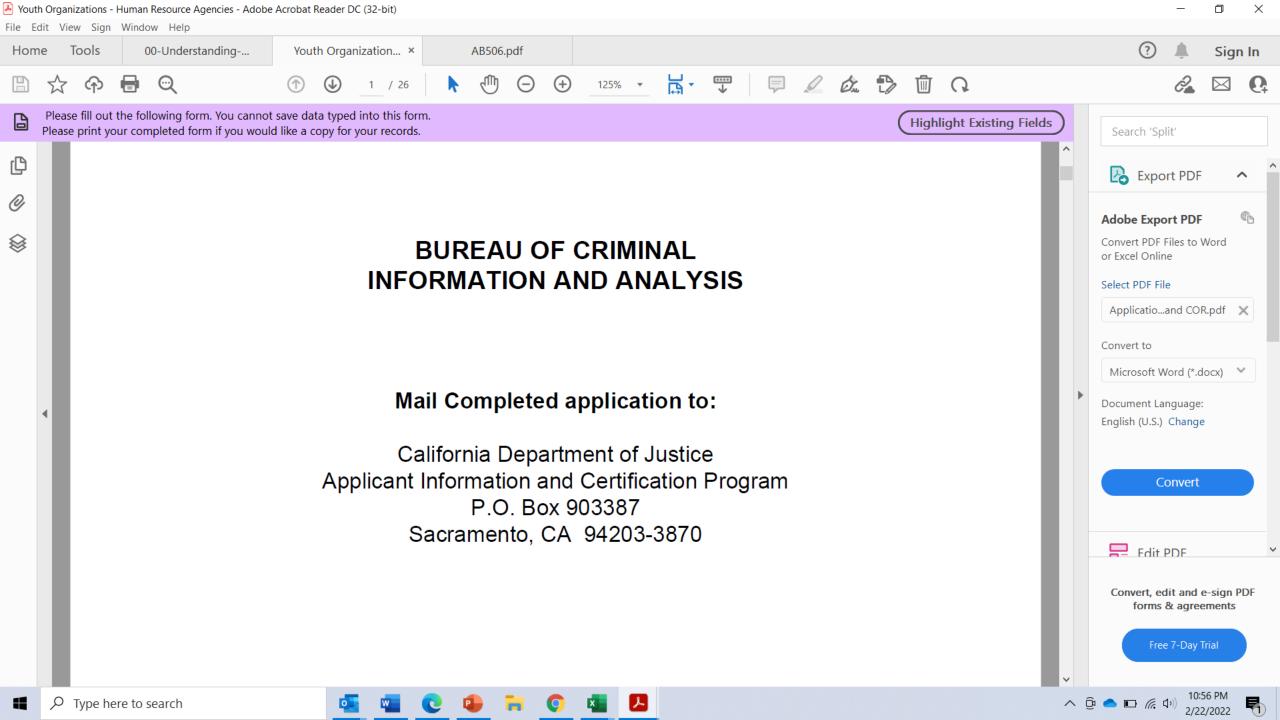












# Forms that need to complete, sign, and mail to California Department of Justice

- 1. Application for Authorization (p. 4)
- 2. Application for Authorization Checklist (p. 5)
- 3. Request for Contributing Agency ORI and/or Response Mail Code (BCII 9001) (p. 6)
- 4. Notification of ORI, Mail Code and/or Billing Number Assignment (p. 8)
- 5. Applicant Fingerprint Response Subscriber Agreement (p. 15 & 16)
- 6. Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Policy (To be signed by Head of Agency) (p. 17)
- 7. CORI Policy (To be signed by Custodian of Records) (p.18)
- 8. Custodian of Records Application Form (BCIA 8374) (p.19)

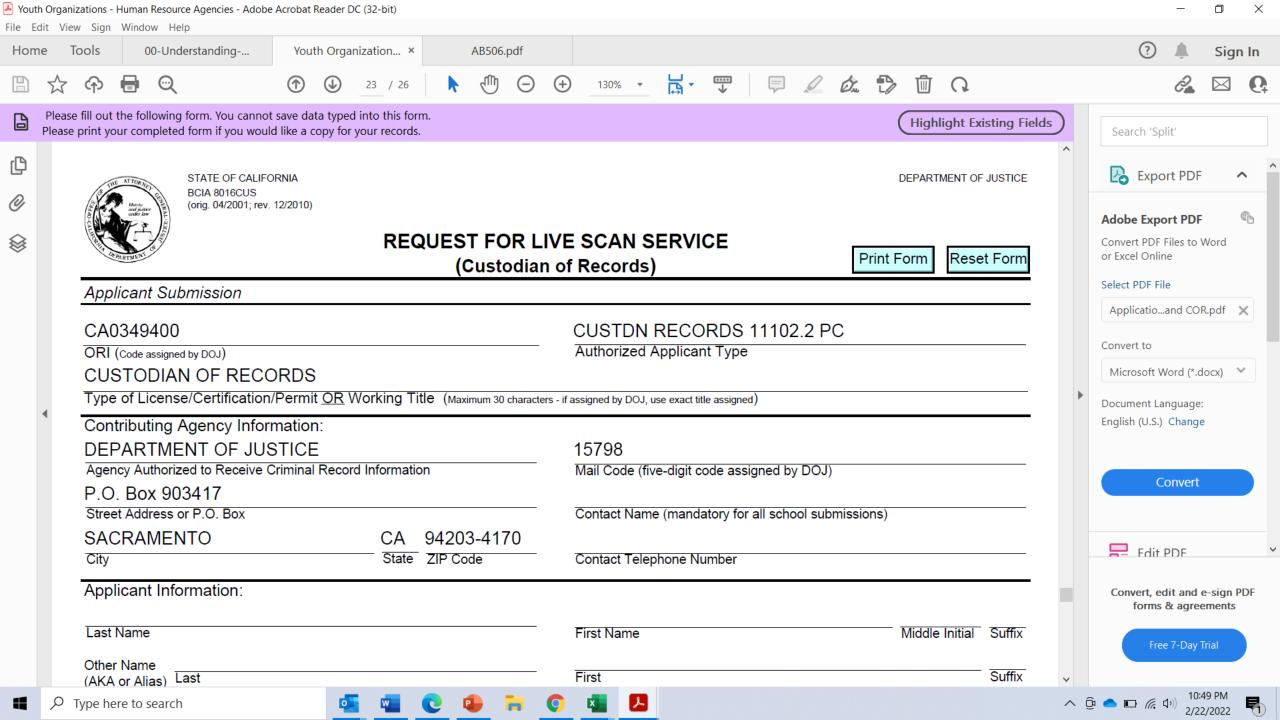
Forms that need to complete, sign, and mail to California Department of Justice Only if your church wants to be billed for the DOJ services directly

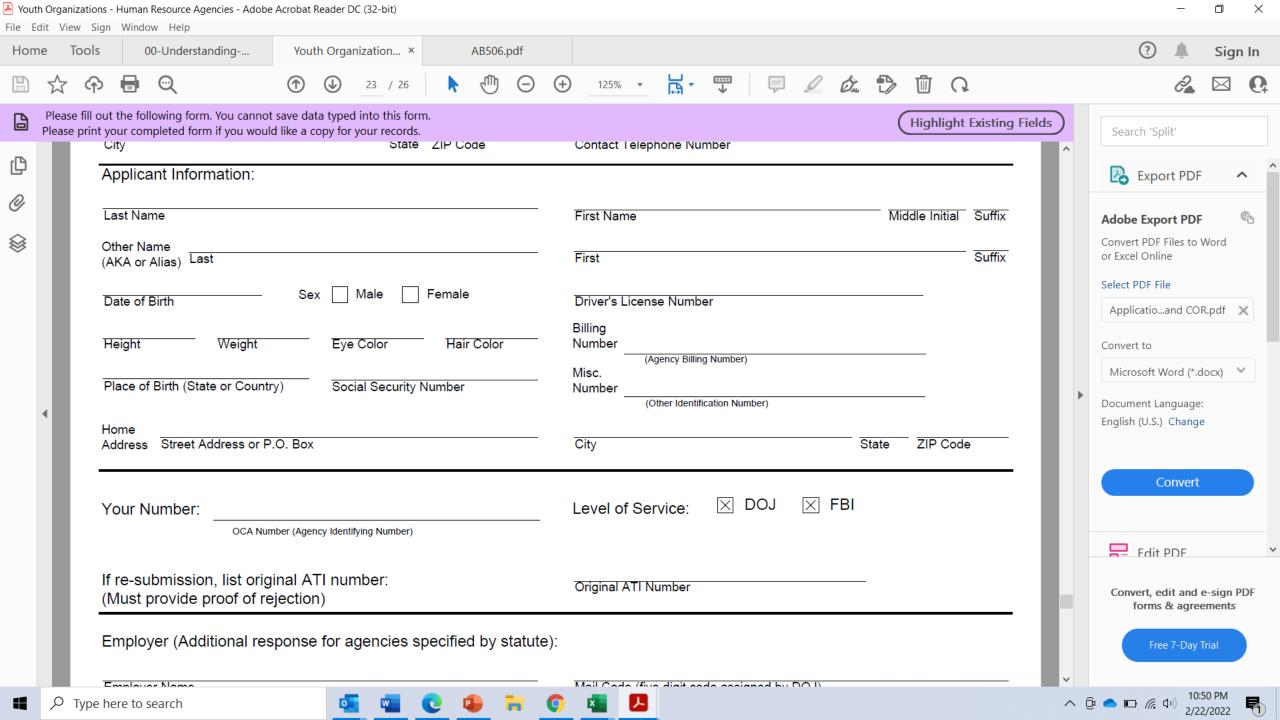
9. Billing Account Application (CJIS 9000) (p.11)

AFTER receiving DOJ authorization confirmation – Ask the Custodian of Records to fill out the following form and take it to a LIVE SCAN location for fingerprinting

Custodian of Records Request for Live Scan Service (BCIA 8016CUS) form (p.21)

You simply google for LIVE SCAN locations nearby





# 3. Background Check Requirements

### Problems of LIVE SCAN:

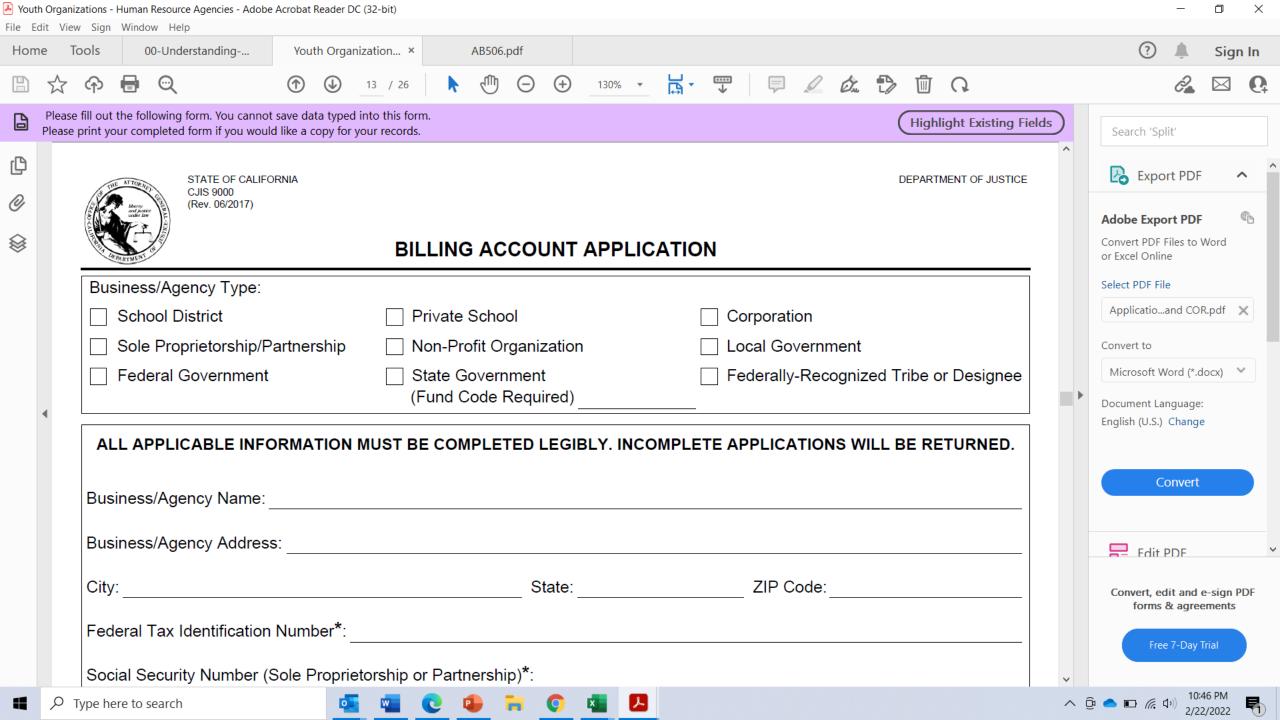
- Only covers California (may need to include a search of FBI records)
- Only covers fingerprinted crimes (may need to continue existing background check via agencies)
- Excludes a search of Sex Offender Registry

# 3. Background Check Requirements

### Fee:

\$32 (DOJ fee) + \$20 - \$35 (rolling fee) + \$17 (if include FBI check)

Livescans are not transferrable from another organization, so one needs to perform this process for each applicable organization one volunteers with, but the good news is that this is a one-time requirement.



# 4. Policies Requirements

- (c) A youth service organization shall develop and implement child abuse prevention policies and procedures that include:
- (1) Policies to ensure the reporting of suspected incidents of child abuse to persons or entities outside of the organization,
- (2) Policies requiring, to the greatest extent possible, the presence of at least two mandated reporters whenever administrators, employees, or volunteers are in contact with, or supervising, children.

### Sample Policy Statement for Reporting and Minimum Staffing

Church of the Christian & Missionary Alliance,,CA
Policy and Procedures Addressing Child Abuse and Neglect Required Reporting and Minimum Supervision Requirements
Adopted:

Preamble:

\_\_\_\_\_Church opposes any form of sexual misconduct by pastors, lay staff, employees, and volunteers. This policy applies equally to pastors, lay staff, employees, and volunteers. Unless otherwise specified, the words "pastor" and "pastoral" include all rostered persons including all ordained or consecrated pastors, all accredited and licensed pastors, and all ministry workers both paid and volunteer. It is understood that misconduct, abuse, or neglect can also be the result of actions witnessed or discovered by employees and volunteers that has been perpetrated on children or youth who attend the children's or youth programs. Regardless of the source of abuse, that misconduct is never tolerated. This policy shall put in place guidelines required under AB 506 for reporting of instances to outside authorities and for setting minimum standards for supervision for all children's and youth programming.

### **Defining Child Abuse and Neglect**

The purpose of child abuse reporting laws is designed to be a deterrent to abuse and to protect children and youth from abuse and neglect from whatever source.

Abuse is usually found in one or more of 4 forms: Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse and or Neglect. Physical abuse can be unlawful corporal punishment or injury, or willful harming or injuring of a child, unjustifiable physical pain, or endangering a child. Emotional Abuse is unjustifiable mental suffering, extreme emotional cruelty, or exposure to serious domestic violence. Sexual Abuse is any sexual assault that would include any sexual touching or sexual exploitation in the form of child pornography, sexual slavery, or commercially sexually exploited children. Neglect is typically evidenced in severe cases as malnutrition or failure to thrive; or in more general cases as failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision; or could be evidenced by failure to protect a child from harmful actions of others.

#### **Required Reporting**

Any mandated reporter (Paid church worker who has any role in children's or youth ministry) shall make a report to an agency specified whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows, or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. For purposes of this policy reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.

Volunteers (not legally mandated reporters) working in the youth ministry should also report to their paid staff leader or Pastoral staff any knowledge or reasonable suspicion of abuse.

That reporting needs to be immediate by phone to the Police, Sheriff, or County Welfare Department. If your county has a Child Abuse Hotline reporting can also happen through that hotline. Secondarily within 36 hours a written report must be made using form SS-8572.

The mandated reporter understands that there are both criminal and civil penalties for failure to report.

If the misconduct was on the part of an employee or volunteer, The child abuse reporting law overrides any contrary church policy or procedure. This means if the suspected abuser is a church employee, volunteer, or member, the church's duty to promptly report suspected child abuse to the civil authorities must be followed before the church conducts any internal investigation required by church personnel policies.

### **Mandatory Staffing for Children's & Youth Events**

Due to the nature of the reporting requirements and to do everything possible to prevent any abuse
from occurring with employees, and volunteers, it shall be the policy of
Church that no single individual employee or volunteer shall ever be in the
classroom or attending the youth event without at least one other person. Whenever possible, those
2 individuals shall be mandated reporters. Additionally, having one male and one female employee o
volunteer when there are both sexes present in the children or youth meeting would be the
preference.

(Other Policies that may be contained elsewhere in Church Policies)

### **Mandatory Training for Child Abuse and Neglect Identification and Reporting**

Each individual who serves in the children's or youth ministry shall attend a training class suitable for there participation and level of contact that will be administered by the Church leadership or made available through third party sources. No individual can serve without first attending this training.

#### **Mandatory Background Checks**

All individual paid or volunteer will undergo a background check that meets the requirements of including the applicants fingerprints to check for prior child abuse. If that background check shows prior abuse, that individual shall not be allowed to serve in any children's or youth ministry capacity.

