

# CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE

## **§278.7. Inapplicability**

(a) Section 278.5 does not apply to a person with a right to custody of a child who, with a good faith and reasonable belief that the child, if left with the other person, will suffer immediate bodily injury or emotional harm, takes, entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals that child.

(b) Section 278.5 does not apply to a person with a right to custody of a child who has been a victim of domestic violence who, with a good faith and reasonable belief that the child, if left with the other person, will suffer immediate bodily injury or emotional harm, takes, entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals that child. “Emotional harm” includes having a parent who has committed domestic violence against the parent who is taking, enticing away, keeping, withholding, or concealing the child.

(c) The person who takes, entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals a child **shall do all of the following:**

(1) Within a reasonable time from the taking, enticing away, keeping, withholding, or concealing, make a report to the office of the district attorney of the county where the child resided before the action. The report shall include the name of the person, the current address and telephone number of the child and the person, and the reasons the child was taken, enticed away, kept, withheld, or concealed.

(2) Within a reasonable time from the taking, enticing away, keeping, withholding, or concealing, commence a custody proceeding in a court of competent jurisdiction consistent with the federal Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act (Section 1738A, Title 28, United States Code) or the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act (Part 3 (commencing with Section 3400) of Division 8 of the Family Code).

(3) Inform the district attorney’s office of any change of address or telephone number of the person and the child.

(d) For the purposes of this article, a reasonable time within which to make a report to the district attorney’s office is at least 10 days and a reasonable time to commence a custody proceeding is at least 30 days. This section shall not preclude a person from making a report to the district attorney’s office or commencing a custody proceeding earlier than those specified times.

(e) The address and telephone number of the person and the child provided pursuant to this section shall remain confidential unless released pursuant to state law or by a court order that contains appropriate safeguards to ensure the safety of the person and the child.

*(Added by Stats. 1996, Ch. 988, Sec. 9. Effective January 1, 1997.)*



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	Expires _____
	Investigator _____

# Shasta County District Attorney's Office

## Investigation Division

**\*\*CONFIDENTIAL GOOD CAUSE REPORT \*\***  
California Penal code 278.7

**PC §278.5 (a)** does not apply to a person with a right to custody of a child who, with a good faith and reasonable belief that the child, if left with the other person, will suffer immediate bodily injury or emotional harm, takes, entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals that child.

**PC §278.5(b)** does not apply to a person with a right to custody of a child who has been a victim of domestic violence who, with a good faith and reasonable belief that the child, if left with the other person, will suffer immediate bodily injury or emotional harm, takes , entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals that child. "Emotional harm" includes having a parent who has committed domestic violence against the parent who is taking, enticing away, keeping, withholding, or concealing the child.

In order to fulfill the "Good Cause" defense to a prosecution under PC§278.5, the person with a right to custody who takes, entices away, keeps, withholds, or conceals that child shall do the following:

- (1) Make a report of the taking, within a reasonable time, to the District Attorney's Office of the county where the child resided before the action.
- (2) Commence a custody proceeding in a court of competent jurisdiction within a reasonable time from the taking.
- (3) Inform the District Attorney's office of any change of address or telephone number of the person and the child.
- (4) For the purpose of this article, a reasonable time within which to make a report to the District Attorney's office is at least 10 days and a reasonable time to commence a custody proceeding is at least 30 days. This section shall not preclude a person from making a report to the District Attorney's office or commencing a custody proceeding earlier than those specified times.
- (5) Failure to comply with these requirements will cause your Confidential "Good Cause" Report to be classified as invalid. Should a complaint be filed against you for Child Abduction, you could be charged with a felony. If convicted, you could receive up to 3 years in prison and a fine of \$10,000.00.

**THE "GOOD CAUSE" REPORT DOES NOT CHANGE OR ESTABLISH CUSTODY**

I \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge reading page 1 outlining the requirements of PC§278.7. I acknowledge that I could be charged with a violation of PC§148.5 if I make a false re ort that a crime has been committed.

I \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ **DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Maiden

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Eyes: \_\_\_\_\_ Hair: \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_ Drivers License # \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street City State Zip

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Message \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/or last employer name and address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address where child(ren) will be concealed until court hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

Address where child(ren) had been living \_\_\_\_\_

Has this information been reported to any agency? Yes ( ) No ( )

Who? \_\_\_\_\_

(Police, One Safe Place, Children Family Services, Etc:)

Is there any court action involving the child(ren)? Yes ( ) No ( )

Where and What: \_\_\_\_\_

(Criminal, Divorce, Domestic Violence, CFS Detention, Guardianship, etc:) City and State

Do you have a CURRENT custody order? Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, name of city & state? \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Court File # \_\_\_\_\_

Have you already filed for custody or modification? Yes ( ) No ( ) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an Attorney? Yes ( ) No ( )

Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been arrested? \_\_\_\_\_ Charges, city, state, date \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been investigated for a crime against or involving a child \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of Child/Children:**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(6) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

(7) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_ **SS#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last School Attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

1355 West Street • Redding, CA 96001 • Phone: 530 245-6300 • Fax: 530 245-6345 • Relay Service Dial 711

**BASIS FOR YOUR BELIEF CHILD(REN) WOULD SUFFER IMMEDIATE BODILY INJURY  
OR EMOTIONAL HARM IF NOT TAKEN, OR OTHER REASON WHY CHILD(REN)  
WAS/WERE TAKEN AND CONCEALED:**

1355 West Street • Redding, CA 96001 • Phone: 530 245-6300 • Fax: 530 245-6345 • Relay Service Dial 711



Please print the completed application and drop off at the address below:

SHASTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
CHILD ABDUCTION UNIT  
1355 WEST STREET  
REDDING, CA 96001

Or email:

\* if this button does not work for you, please save the form, attach it and send to [shastaboi@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shastaboi@co.shasta.ca.us)