

Colorado Law

19-3-304.5. Emergency possession of certain abandoned children.

(1) If a parent voluntarily delivers a child to a firefighter, as defined in section [18-3-201](#) (1), C.R.S., or a hospital staff member who engages in the admission, care, or treatment of patients, when such firefighter is at a fire station or such hospital staff member is at a hospital, the firefighter or hospital staff member shall, without a court order, take temporary physical custody of the child if:

- (a) The child is seventy-two hours old or younger; and
- (b) The parent did not express an intent to return for the child.

(2) If a firefighter or hospital staff member takes temporary physical custody of a child pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the firefighter or hospital staff member shall:

- (a) Perform any act necessary, in accordance with generally accepted standards of professional practice, to protect, preserve, or aid the physical health or safety of the child during the temporary physical custody; and
- (b) Notify a law enforcement officer and the county department of the abandonment within twenty-four hours after the abandonment.