EXECUTIVE ORDER # 54
Relating to Supplemental Mandatory Reporting
Requirements of Child Abuse and Neglect

WHEREAS, we must always be vigilant in protecting our children and creating a
safe environment for them; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and best interests of our children are of chief
concern, and it is appropriate and necessary that the State do everything within its means to
ensure that suspected cases of abuse and neglect of our children are reported to the proper
authorities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 48.981(2)(a), certain persons currently are
required to report incidents of child abuse or neglect, including health practitioners, social
workers, law enforcement officers, child care providers, counselors, school teachers, and
school staff members; and

WHEREAS, current mandatory reporting laws do not require most college or
university professors, administrators, coaches, or other college or university staff members
to report cases of child abuse or neglect;

NOW THEREFORE, I, SCOTT WALKER, Governor of the State of
Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, do
hereby order and direct as follows:

1. All University of Wisconsin System (UWS) professors, administrators, coaches, and
other UWS employees shall report child abuse or neglect immediately if the
employee, in the course of employment, observes an incident or threat of child abuse
or neglect, or learns of an incident or threat of child abuse or neglect, and the
employee has reasonable cause to believe that child abuse or neglect has occurred or
will occur.

2. A report shall be made, personally or by telephone, to one of the following:

   a. the county department of social services or the county department of human
      services, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 48.02(2g);

   b. in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the county department
      of social services, the county department of human services, or a licensed
      child welfare agency under contract with the county department of social
      services or the county department of human services; or

   c. the sheriff or the city, village, town, or university police department.

3. “Child” shall be defined as in Wis. Stat. § 48.02(2), “abuse” and “neglect” shall be
defined as in Wis. Stats. § 48.02(1) and (12g), and “report” refers to a report under

4. A UWS employee who is a mandatory reporter under Wis. Stat. § 48.981(2)(a) shall
comply with the requirements of the state mandatory reporter law and shall not be
subject to this Order.

5. No UWS employee making a report under this Order in good faith may be
discharged from employment, disciplined or otherwise discriminated against in
regard to employment, or threatened with any such treatment, for so doing.

6. This Order shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded
by the Governor, or duplicated, superseded, or terminated by operation of law.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done in the City of Milwaukee this nineteenth day of December, in the year two thousand eleven.

SCOTT WALKER  
Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State