WHERE TO GET HELP

Reports of elder financial exploitation and abuse may be made by anyone.

Financial exploitation and any other forms of elder abuse, including assault, neglect or self-neglect, may be reported to PCA’s Older Adult Protective Services Department, 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling:

215–765–9040
PCA Helpline

In addition to contacting Older Adult Protective Services, when a crime has been committed or the elder is at imminent risk:
Dial 911

For updates and resources about scams and exploitation:
www.stopseniorscams.org

Philadelphia Financial Exploitation Prevention Task-force Members:

Beneficial Bank
CARIE
Citizens Bank
Mayor’s Office of Community Empowerment & Opportunity
Philadelphia Corporation for Aging
Philadelphia District Attorney
Philadelphia Police Department
SeniorLAW Center
Susquehanna Bank
TruMark Financial Credit Union
University of Pennsylvania, Healthy Brain Research Center

PCA Helpline: 215–765–9040
Toll free 888-462-9060 (outside Philadelphia)
215-765-9041 (for hearing impaired)

www.pcaCares.org

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WHERE DID ALL THE MONEY GO?

A national study estimates that elder financial abuse causes $36.48 billion in losses each year. Losses from abuse:

- $17 Billion
  From exploitation – pressure tactics and misleading information

- $12.8 Billion
  From fraud, identity theft and con artists

- $6.7 Billion
  From abuse of trusting relationships

WHO IS THE ABUSER?

- New friend or relative “calling the shots”
- Adult children
- Caregiver
- Power of Attorney
- Scam artist

According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, adult children are the most frequent abusers of the elderly. Spouses are the second most likely perpetrators. These family members can often be the senior’s only source of support, making the victim unwilling or unable to seek help. Other older adults may be too embarrassed, intimidated or confused to report abuse.

WHAT IS FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION?

An act or course of conduct by a caretaker or other person against an older adult or an older adult's resources, without the informed consent of the elder or with the consent obtained through misrepresentation, coercion or threats of force, that results in monetary, personal or other benefit, gain or profit for the perpetrator or monetary or personal loss to the older adult (35 P.S. Section 10224.103)

INDICATORS OF ABUSE?

- Elder is withdrawn or fearful
- Lack of adequate food/hygiene
- Bruises, welts, lacerations, scratches or abrasions, unexplained scars
- Bank transactions the elder claims he or she did not make
- Large withdrawals or transfers conducted by trusted person

IMPACT ON SENIORS & SOCIETY

- Most elders do not have the ability to replenish losses. This results in a greatly decreased quality of life and has a devastating impact on their trust in themselves and others.

- Almost one in ten victims turns to Medicaid as a result of assets lost due to financial abuse.

- Elder abuse victims are four times more likely to go into a nursing home.

- Elder abuse victims are three times more likely to die.