

Prevention Tips

- Avoid Isolation. If possible have a strong social network.
- Keep valuables in a safe place.
- Be careful who has access to personal and financial information.
- Do not give out any information over the phone.
- Seek legal advise when making important decisions regarding possessions and finances.
- Report any neglect and/or abuse immediately.

Reporting Abuse

Adult Protective Services

1-866-654-3219

Fax: 505-476-4913

Department of Health Hotline

1-800-752-8649

New Mexico Securities Division

1-800-704-5533

Lemuel L. Martinez 13TH Judicial District Attorney



Cibola County:

515 High Street,
Grants New Mexico 87020
(505) 285-4627

Sandoval County:

1500 Idalia Road, Bernalillo,
New Mexico 87004

333 Rio Rancho Blvd. Ste 201, Rio
Rancho, New Mexico 87124
(505) 896-3952

Valencia County:

101 S. Main Street #201,
Belen, New Mexico 87002
(505) 861-0311

What you need to
know about

Elder Abuse



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Sandoval and Valencia

What is Elder Abuse?

There are many different types of Elderly Abuse including physical, emotional, and/or psychological harm. Elder abuse can also take the form of financial exploitation.

The abuse can happen in the home or in setting such as a hospital or nursing home.

Physical abuse is inflicting, or threatening to inflict, physical pain or injury on a vulnerable elder, or depriving them of a basic need.

Signs of Physical abuse

- Bruises or Pressure Marks
- Burns
- Broken Bones or Abrasions
- Repeated unexplained injuries

Sexual abuse is the infliction of non-consensual sexual contact of any kind.

Signs of Sexual Abuse

- Stained or bloody undergarments
- Bruised breasts or genital area
- Venereal diseases or infections

Financial or material exploitation is the illegal taking, misuse, or concealment of funds, property, or assets of a vulnerable elder. Financial exploitation includes fraud, taking money under false pretenses, forgery, forced property transfers, purchasing expensive items without permission, or denying the older person access to his or her own funds or home.

Signs of Financial Exploitation

- Sudden changes in elder's bank practices or balances
- Unauthorized withdrawal of elder's funds.
- Abrupt changes in elder's will or financial documents.

Emotional or psychological abuse is the infliction of mental or emotional anguish or distress on an elder person through verbal or nonverbal acts. Includes threats, harassment and/or humiliation.

Signs of Emotional or psychological abuse

- Uncommunicative and unresponsive
- Unreasonably fearful or suspicious
- Lack of interest in social contacts
- Chronic physical or psychiatric health problems
- Evasiveness

Neglect is the refusal or failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, health care, or protection for a vulnerable elder.

Signs of Neglect

- Bed sores
- Poor Personal Hygiene
- Sunken eyes or loss of weight
- Unsanitary or unclean living conditions.
- Under or Over Medicated.

Abandonment - The desertion of a vulnerable elder by anyone who has assumed the responsibility for care or custody of that person.

