

**WITH GREAT POWER
COMES GREAT
RESPONSIBILITY!**

**Under Ohio law, certain
individuals are required to
report suspected Elder Abuse.**

LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Attorney, Peace Officer, Coroner.

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Physician, Osteopath, Podiatrist, RN, LPN, Hospital Employee, Ambulance Driver, First Responder, Paramedic, Outpatient Clinic Employee

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Chiropractor, Dentist, Pharmacist, Dialysis Technician, Psychologist, Community Mental Health Employee, Counselor, Social Worker, Therapist

SENIOR CARE PROFESSIONALS

Home Health Employee, Residential Facility Employee, Nursing Home Employee, Senior Services Provider

FINANCIAL CLERKS

Accountant, Real Estate Agent, Notary Public, Bank Employee, Investment Adviser, Financial Planner

OTHER

Clergy, Health Department Employee, Humane Society Agent, Firefighter, Building Inspectors



**Guernsey County Prosecutor
Victim Advocacy Program**

407 Wheeling Avenue
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

740.432.5938

JOEL BLUE



**GUERNSEY
COUNTY
PROSECUTOR**



Victim Advocacy Program

**MANDATORY
REPORTING**



**PROTECTING SENIORS
FROM EXPLOITATION
AND ABUSE**

SECRET IDENTITY!

90% of older adult abusers are family members.

2/3 of perpetrators are adult children or spouses.

A TRUE DEFENDER NEVER RAISES ARMS AGAINST AN INNOCENT.

Individuals working with older adults need to be vigilant because abusers will often pretend to be acting in the best interest of the older adult.

SIGNS OF ABUSE

- ▶ Unexplained bruising or other injury
- ▶ Refusal of medical treatment
- ▶ Venereal disease, vaginal infections, STDs
- ▶ Fearful
- ▶ Loss of interest in social contacts
- ▶ Sudden change in mental health
- ▶ Weight changes
- ▶ Untreated injuries or infections
- ▶ Unsuitable clothing
- ▶ Desertion in a public place

SIGNS OF EXPLOITATION

- ▶ Significant monetary withdrawals
- ▶ Sudden changes in financial condition
- ▶ Items or cash missing from home/room
- ▶ Suspicious changes to legal documents
- ▶ Addition of names to the senior's credit card
- ▶ Financial activity the senior couldn't have undertaken
- ▶ Unnecessary services, goods, or subscriptions

THE SINISTER SEVEN

The all-too-real evil of elder abuse, sadly, takes on several forms. Below are the seven most common subtypes. (Each case is unique and often abusers do no limit themselves to a single category.)

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Inflicting physical pain or injury upon older adult.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Touching, fondling, intercourse, or any other sexual activity with an older adult, when the older adult is unable to understand, unwilling to consent, threatened, or physically forced.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Verbal assaults, threats of abuse, harassment, or intimidation.

CONFINEMENT

Restraining or isolating an older adult, other than for medical reasons.

PASSIVE NEGLECT

A caregiver's failure to provide an older adult with necessities, including, but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.

WILLFUL DEPRIVATION

Denying an older adult medication, medical care, shelter, food, a therapeutic device, or other physical assistance, and exposing that person to the risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm – except when the older, competent adult has expressed a desire to go without such care.

CRISIS

- ▶ Approximately 1 in 10 Americans aged 60 have experienced some form of elder abuse.
- ▶ An estimated 5 million elders are abused each year in the United States.
- ▶ Nearly half of those with dementia have experienced abuse or neglect.
- ▶ Adults with disabilities experience interpersonal violence at disproportionately high rates.
- ▶ As few as 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse are reported to authorities.



AND THERE CAME A DAY UNLIKE ANY OTHER...

AS A MANDATORY REPORTER, YOUR DUTY IS TO: REPORT SUSPECTED ELDER ABUSE.

CALL: 1-855-644-6277