

Important Resources

Sacramento Co. Adult Protective Services

Investigates allegations of abuse and neglect for seniors and dependent adults, and provides referrals to local social service programs.

916.874.9377 dcfas.saccounty.net/sas

Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center

Provides trauma-informed individual counseling as well as referrals to group counseling for both adults and children.

916.875.4673 www.sacramentofjc.org

McGeorge School of Law Elder and Health Clinic

Free legal assistance to low income seniors.

916.340.6080 law.pacific.edu/law

Sacramento Co. In-Home Support Services

Helps aged, blind, or disabled persons to remain in their homes with paid caregivers.

916.874.9471 dcfas.saccounty.net/sas

Sacramento Co. Senior Volunteer Services

Offers volunteer opportunities for adults over age 55 to stay active and make a difference in the lives of others.

916.875.3631 dcfas.saccounty.net/sas

Sutter Health - SeniorCare PACE

Offers a broad range of comprehensive, coordinated services

916.446.3100 www.sutterhealth.org

Victims of Crime Resources Center

Resources and referrals to victims, families, service providers, and advocates.

800.842.8467 www.1800victims.org

Personal Community Resource References

Sacramento County District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Assistance Program

www.sacda.org/victim-services/elder-abuse/
916.874.6171

Citrus Heights Police Department

www.citrusheights.net/222/police
916.727.5500

Elk Grove Police Department

www.elkgrovepd.org
916.478.8000

Folsom Police Department

www.folsom.ca.us/city_hall/depts/police
916.355.7234

Galt Police Department

www.cityofgalt.org
209.366.7000

Rancho Cordova Police Department

www.ranhocordovapd.com
916.875.9600

Sacramento City Police Department

www.cityofsacramento.org/police
916.264.5471

Sacramento County Sheriff's Office

www.sacsheriff.com
916.874.5115

California Department of Aging (CDA)

<https://aging.ca.gov>
800.510.2020

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program and the Statewide 24 Hr CRISIS line

800.231.4024

To request a District Attorney Speaker on elder abuse,
please visit sacda.org or email speakers@sacda.org

901 G Street - Sacramento, CA 95814

916.874.6218

CA Relay Service 800.735.2929 TDD or 711

@SacCountyDA



Sacramento County
District Attorney's Office

Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse



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sacda.org

What is elder or dependent adult abuse?

Elder or dependent abuse is abuse of someone:

- 65 years or older; or
- A dependent adult, who is between 18 and 64.

A dependent adult is someone with certain mental or physical disabilities that keep them from being able to do normal activities or protect themselves.

Elder abuse is defined by California Penal Code section 368 as the unlawful physical or psychological mistreatment of any person who is 65 years of age or older, including taking financial advantage, actual neglect, or physical mistreatment. Each of these crimes is punishable by imprisonment. In appropriate cases, mental health and substance abuse services for the offender can be part of the resolution of a criminal case.

If you are an elderly person or a dependent adult who is being abused in any of these ways or you feel afraid or controlled by a family member, spouse/partner or former spouse/partner, or a caregiver, it may help you to talk to a counselor. This may help you even if you do not want (or are not sure if you want) to ask for legal protection.

Types of abuse

Physical/Sexual abuse - The use of physical restraint, inappropriate usage of medications. Any physical pain caused by slapping, kicking, pushing, beating, shaking, squeezing, pinching or forcing sex acts without consent or ability to consent.

Neglect - Leaving a person unattended and abandoned. The failure of a caregiver to provide clothing or medication.

Psychological/Verbal abuse - Fear brought about by threats, name-calling, swearing, yelling, making humiliating remarks, constant criticism, and threats of physical harm or nursing home placement.

Financial (fiduciary) exploitation - Theft, improper use of money or property, extortion, embezzlement, fraud and unauthorized use of funds from the bank.

Isolation - Monitoring and controlling the person's movements, refusing to let the person outside the home or allowing the person to have visitors, and confinement to a particular area.

Victim Witness Assistance Program

A criminal act may have serious and lasting physical, economic and emotional impact on an elder or dependent adult. An assigned victim advocate works with victims of crime and/or family members to provide services to address their needs and concerns including:

- **Applying for Victim Compensation** - Victim advocates will help victims complete an application for reimbursement of certain expenses related to the crime. Physical injury may result in medical expenses, or there may be a need to access counseling services, increase personal and home security, and replace windows or locks.
- **Information and referrals to other agencies** - Advocates can provide help to elder dependent adult victims in providing referrals to appropriate community service programs.

- **Provide support and information throughout the court process** - The court process can be confusing and overwhelming. An advocate can help by explaining the process, advocating for the victim throughout the process, accompanying them to court and providing information about victim rights.

Help for Victims of Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse

Becoming a victim of a violent crime can have a devastating impact on an older person or a dependent adult. Many victims may feel they have few options. They may feel unable to resolve or avoid abusive situations due to cognitive impediments, health, or limited resources. Some persons are unaware of the victimization and refuse to report and testify against a family member who has abused them, or refuse to see themselves as victims.

Help is available for victims of elder and dependent abuse through the Sacramento County District Attorney's Victim Witness Assistance Program. Trained and experienced victim advocates can provide crisis counseling, advocacy, direct assistance, information about the criminal justice system, and community referrals.

