



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

THE **SENIOR NEWS**



10,000 Americans turn 65 every day

According to a 2016 New York State study on financial exploitation of the elderly:

- Of the 928 Adult Protective Services cases reviewed, only two percent of the referrals were initiated by victims
- In 35% of the cases, victims lived with the perpetrators
- 76% of referrals involved victims with at least one serious health impairment
- 50% of victims were not aware of their mistreatment

Three national studies found that abuse of dementia patients by their caregivers ranged from 34%-62%.

What do these statistics mean for you? This means as you reach retirement, you also need to plan for your “later” years when you may need to rely on others for your care. Educate yourself and start putting together your “caregiving plan” so your loved ones know your wishes ahead of time. Make sure you have trusted family and friends involved in your decisions. Have a written plan so there will be no confusion about what you want.

AARP has a Prepare to Care guide for families that is very detailed. Call my office at (330) 643-8674 if you would like a copy.

Additionally, I see a lot of cases involving the elderly and I cannot stress enough that you should tell someone if you suspect anyone of stealing your retirement savings or if you feel threatened, even by family members. Law enforcement takes these cases very seriously.

Also, be aware of what is going on around you. If you notice signs of elder abuse with anyone, call your local police department immediately. Don’t wait for the situation to turn tragic before you say something.

What is elder abuse?

Physical abuse can range from slapping or shoving to severe beatings.



Physical



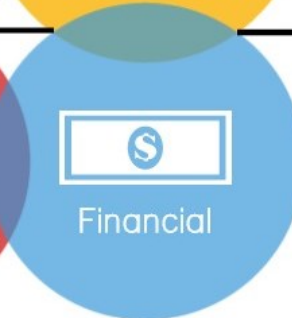
Neglect

Intentionally failing to meet the physical, social, or emotional needs of the older person.

When caretakers give 'the silent treatment' or intimidate the individual by threatening them.



Psychological



Financial

Financial abuse can range from misuse of funds to embezzlement

From the American Psychological Association

53 University Ave., 6th Floor
Akron, Ohio 44308
(330) 643-2800
Fax: (330) 643-2137
E-mail: holdt@prosecutor.summitoh.net

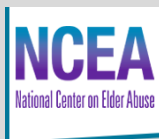
Visit our Senior Safety Website:

www.co.summit.oh.us/prosecutor

Did You Know?

The Alzheimer's Association reports that:

- Five million Americans have Alzheimer's disease
- Someone develops Alzheimer's every 67 seconds and by 2050, it will be every 33 seconds
- Two-thirds of people living with Alzheimer's are women
- 13 million women in America either have Alzheimer's or are caring for someone with the disease



The National Center on Elder Abuse has a lot of helpful information to guide you through any questions and steps to take when you suspect abuse. Call (626) 457-4090 or go to ncea.acl.gov to learn more.

If you did not get your 2017 Senior Safety Calendar, call my office at (330) 64-88674 and we will send one to you.

SENIOR SAFETY AWARENESS 2017 CALENDAR



Calendar Sponsored by Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh



When shopping this holiday season, remember E.L.F.S. - Enter the car, Lock the doors, Fasten seat belts and Scram!

Look for us at the WAKR Christmas Luncheon

December 8, 2016, 11:00am
Tangier Restaurant
532 W. Market St., Akron 44303



Who Wouldn't Want to Support a Soldier over the Holidays?

Who wouldn't want to support a wounded soldier over the holidays? It starts with a Facebook post asking you to send a holiday card to any wounded soldier at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. And then you are asked to share the post with the promise of getting wounded members of the military holiday cards. The problem is, it's a hoax. The Walter Reed Army Medical Center closed in 2011 and the U.S. Mail will not deliver any letters or packages addressed to "Any Soldier" or "Any Wounded Soldier." Instead, you can send holiday mail through the American Red Cross Holiday Mail for Heroes at this address:

Holiday Mail for Heroes
P.O. Box 5456
Capitol Hts., MD 20791-5456