Office Locations

Alameda County Family Justice Center
Elder Protection Unit
7677 Oakport St #650
Oakland, CA 94621
(510) 383-8600
askCEPD-da@acgov.org

Victim-Witness Assistance Division
Alameda County
District Attorney’s Office
1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 802
Oakland, California 94612
(510) 272-6180
www.alcoda.org/victim-witness

Monday – Friday: 8:30AM-5:00PM
Please call if you would like further information concerning our services and how we can help!

Resources

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Adult Protective Services............ 510-577-3500
ACFJC Elder Protection Unit........ 510-267-8800
Court Investigator’s Office (if a conservatorship exists)........ 510-636-8820
Alameda County Department of Adult and Aging Services........ 510-577-1900
Elder Care Locator.......................... 800-677-1116
In-Home Support Services............ 510-577-1900
Legal Assistance for Seniors......... 510-832-3040
Medi-Cal........................................ 800-541-5555
Medicare........................................ 800-633-4227
Oakland Department of Aging Linkages Program............... 510-238-3931
Ombudsman, Inc. (for residents in long-term care facilities)........ 510-638-6878
Public Guardian/Conservator’s Office.......................... 510-577-1900
Social Security-General............... 800-772-1213
Veterans Assistance Center......... 510-577-1926
Victim-Witness Assistance Division - Elder Abuse Services.. 510-267-8800

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What is elder/dependent adult abuse?

Elder/dependent adult abuse is a pattern of coercive control and abusive behaviors used by one individual intended to exert power and control over an elder or dependent adult in the context of an intimate or family relationship. “Elder” is defined as any person who is 65 years of age or older. “Dependent adult” is defined as any person who is between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical, mental or intellectual limitations which restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights.

What can you do?

- Learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of elder/dependent adult abuse.
- Take time to listen
- Show understanding and respect for their concerns
- Explain that help and support is available
- Help stop the cycle of violence by telling someone who can provide assistance

What does elder/dependent adult abuse look like?

- Spouse or partner abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Threats and intimidation
- Emotional abuse
- Isolation
- Financial abuse

What are the red flags of a potential victim?

- Cuts, bruises, or rope marks
- Poor hygiene, rashes, sores, sudden weight loss
- Soiled clothing, missing eyeglasses, dentures or hearing aids
- Fear, anxiety, isolation, personality changes
- Sudden withdrawals of funds or closing of bank accounts
- Sudden involvement of previously uninvolved relative, caregiver or "new friend"

Did you know?

- In the last decade, elder abuse reports investigated by Adult Protective Services (APS) have increased by more than 150% (National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators – National Center on Elder Abuse – 2001)
- 90% of abusers in domestic elder abuse cases are adult children, relatives or intimate caregivers
- 99% of dependent adult abuse is committed by a victim's caretaker (Baladerian, 1991)

The Victim/Witness Assistance Division can help!

A criminal act may have serious and lasting physical, economic and emotional impact on an elder or dependent adult. Victim consultants who specialize in providing assistance to elder and dependent adult victims of crime and their families are available to address their needs, concerns, and to answer questions.

The victim consultants will provide the following types of assistance:

1. **Apply for California Victim Compensation Program benefits.**
   Victim consultants will help elder/dependent adult victims complete the victim compensation application and forms for expenses related to the crime. Often times, physical injury may result in heavy medical expenses and a need for home support services, counseling, replacement of eye glasses, hearing aids, other assistive devices, and home security improvements or modifications for a crime-related permanent disability.

2. **Information and referral to other agencies.**
   Victim consultants will assess the needs of the elder/dependent adult victim and provide referrals to appropriate community service programs.

3. **Provide support and information throughout the court process.**
   The court process can be confusing. A victim consultant will thoroughly explain the criminal justice process while providing support and advocacy throughout the court process. The victim consultant will arrange transportation and accompany the elder/dependent adult victim and family to court when necessary.