Forgotten Victims

No More!

Putting

ELDER ABUSE in the Spotliaht

Who needs to be involved in pushing back against elder abuse?

Lessons learned on my 22 year journey of prosecuting serious elder abuse cases





\$37 billion

How Criminals Steal \$37 Billion a Year from America's Elderly

Telephone pitchers, online scammers and even family members target the most vulnerable among us. And it's about to get worse.

More stories by Nick Leiber May 3, 2018, 1:00 AM PDT

My Elder Abuse journey began

January 1996

This became my assignment for the next 22 years...

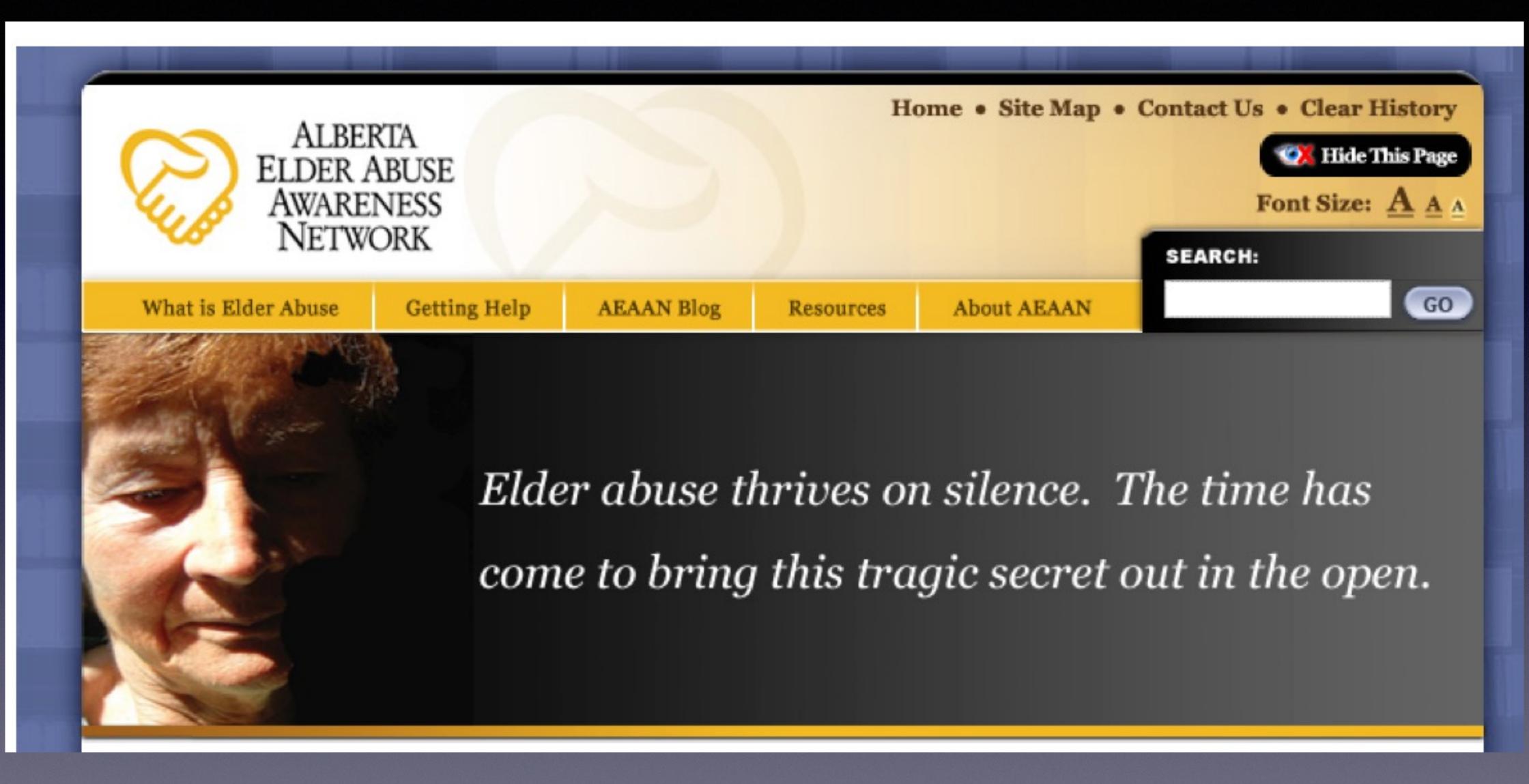
I had an office, a phone, a computer but....

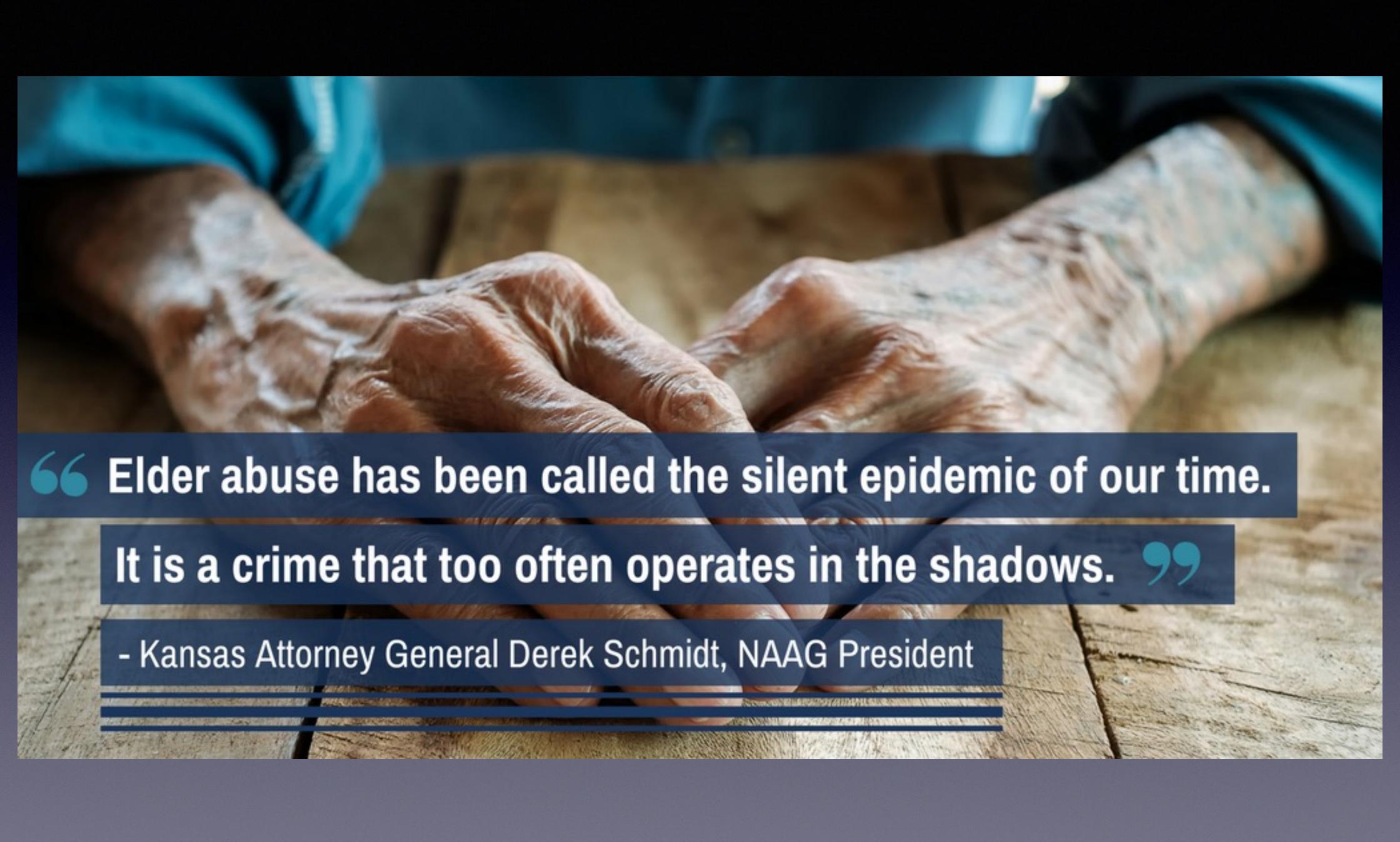
No cases!

Just silence!



Report Elder Abuse 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY)





Elder Abuse is.....

- A Crime
- Going unpunished
- Predictable
- Affecting both urban & rural areas
- Where child abuse & DV were 40 years ago
- Escalating

Every day in the USA, the number of people turning 65 years old is.....

And we are all living longer...

And yet, despite this obvious escalation of the "aging" population...





Despite great progress, funding for #ElderJustice is 1% of funding for child and family welfare. #EJCC

The number one suspect of physical elder abuse...

Profile of the physical abuser:

- Son in his late 30's to late 50's
- Living at home with Mom
- Divorced/ returns or single and unmotivated or just out of jail
- Lazy and unemployed
- Drugs, alcohol or gambling
- Feeds habit off Mom
- Sometimes history of mental illness

The need to educate ourselves about how seniors are being exploited

And that includes spotting some obvious red flags...

- •Isolation...
- Change in routine
- "'A new friend"
- An old family relationship popping up
- Reference to financial difficulty
- •Frequent telephone calls to the house

And being informed about current frauds & scams...

United States Senate Special Committee on Aging





Fighting Fraud:

Senate Aging Committee Identifies

Top 10 Scams Targeting Our Nation's Seniors

Protecting Older Americans Against Fraud

Top 10 Most-Reported Scams

From January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019, the Senate Aging Committee's Fraud Hotline received a total of 1,341 complaints from residents all across the country. Calls pertaining to the top 10 scams featured in this report account for more than 70 percent of the complaints.

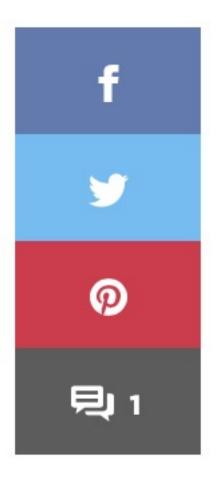
Rank	Type of Scam	# of Complaints
1	Social Security Impersonation Scam	371
2	Robocalls / Unsolicited Phone Calls	123
3	Sweepstakes Scam / Jamaican Lottery Scam	107
4	Romance Scams	99
5	Computer Tech Support Scams	93
6	Grandparent Scams	51
7	IRS Impersonation Scam	34
8	Identity Theft	27
9	Debt Scams	21
10	Elder Financial Abuse	18

If you believe the headlines then we are in for a challenge..

Elder Financial Abuse Is a 'Virtual Pandemic,' and on the Rise

Local fraud expert says incidences of elder financial exploitation are up 30 to 40 percent since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

BY WILL MADDOX PUBLISHED IN HEALTHCARE BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 11:00 AM



The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating a growing problem for seniors in the United States: elder financial abuse. With the elderly more isolated from their loved ones that ever, they are becoming more susceptible to losing their savings to clever fraudsters. The *New England Journal of Medicine* called the problem a "virtual epidemic" in 2015, and healthcare providers can help identify the problem.

Elderly Financial Exploitation & Scams Rising

🕘 April 7, 2020 📑 Nursing Home Abuse And Neglect 🕒 elder financial abuse, Financial Abuse



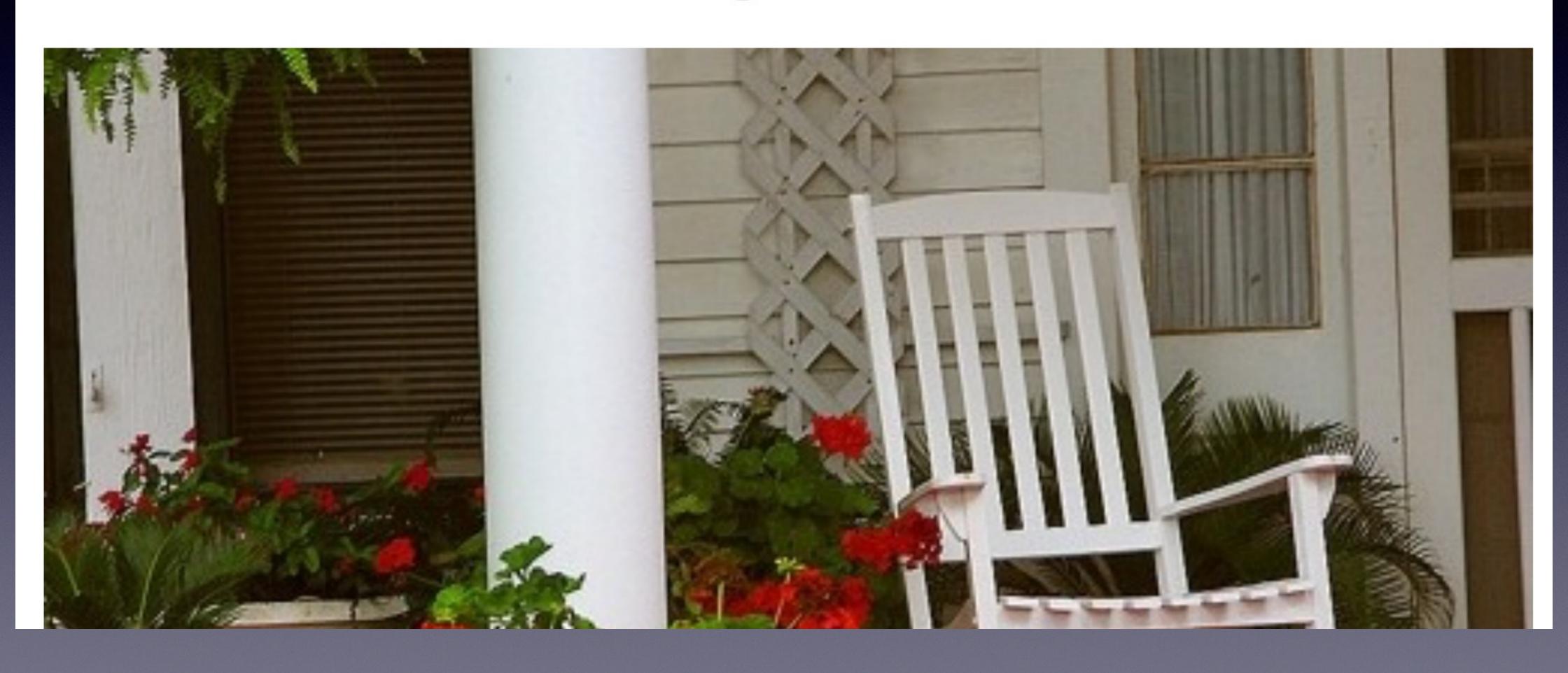
Elder justice advocates fear financial exploitation of seniors on the rise



Rise in financial elder abuse cases since COVID-19 pandemic began



Survey reveals alarming rise in financial abuse of the elderly



Just when you think you can trust someone...

Chase Bank Employee Sentenced for Stealing \$300K from Elder Clients

"She focused and targeted the victims because they were elders," said one elder abuse prosecutor

By Megan Tevrizian

Published at 5:34 PM PDT on Sep 5, 2018 | Updated at 6:19 AM PDT on Sep 7, 2018



Top tips for reducing the risk of becoming a victim

Based on 22 years of criminal prosecution of elder abuse cases

Forearmed is forewarned

Even if you don't think you can use this information for yourself, we all know someone who does need it.

Over 65% of all the cases that I prosecuted involved financial exploitation

The fight against senior scams

'Financial abuse' is now officially a U.S. publichealth concern. Inside the movement to get it under control—and what's slowing it down.

09/27/2017 05:01 AM EDT

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention might be best known for its efforts to combat obesity, or Zika, or the H1N1 flu virus. But last year, it drew new attention to a hazard that doesn't sound like a disease at all.

The hazard is "senior financial abuse," meaning the theft of older people's resources by someone they trust.

Alarmed by the growing cost of the



problem and the lack of a clear strategy to combat it, the CDC included in a first-of-its-kind report a definition for what constitutes the financial exploitation of old people. It includes fraud, breach of personal trust, poor investment advice, or improper use of power of attorney.

Watch for an explosion of elder financial abuse cases

Choose a caregiver with caution

Never hire through a newspaper ad!

Always go through a bonded, insured caregiver agency

Caregiver caution...

Ask the agency to show you what background checks they have done

Never just rely on references given to you by the caregiver

Consider hiring your own investigator to find out as much as you can

Why are so many of our defendants caregivers?

- Easy access to valuables
- Easily converted into cash
- •Assumption that victim won't discover or won't "press charges"
- Justification for the taking

Keep an inventory of all jewelry

Locked drawer

Photos or video of valuable or sentimental pieces



Every home should have a shredder

Every piece of mail with your identifying information should be shredded

Criss-cross is best

Watch out for dumpster divers!



People are trying to learn about you from what you discard!



Protect your incoming and outgoing mail

Never allow incoming mail to sit in unsecured mailbox with public access

Mailbox security...

Consider renting a Post Office box If possible, collect your new check books directly from your bank





credit search at least 2 - 3 times a year

Obtain a

Experian,
Equifax &
TransUnion

Credit reports

Talk to your financial institution about credit searches

Everyone is entitled to one free credit report a year [AnnualCreditReport.com]





Consider freezing your credit







Every home should have caller ID

Determine if the call is Private or Unknown

Don't be afraid to hang up - or at least to message

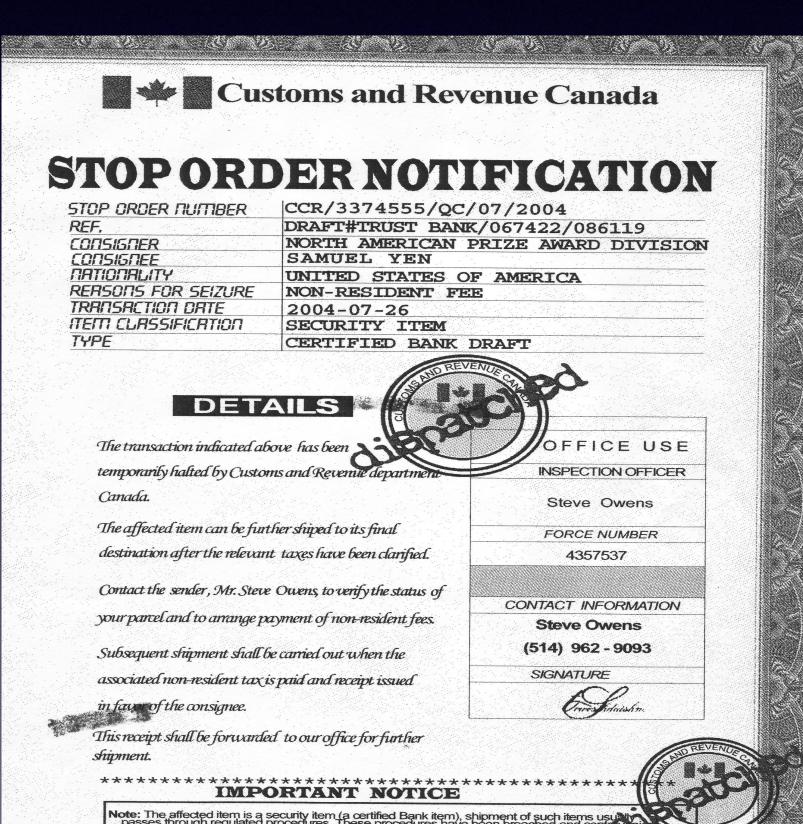
And remember that crooks can "mimic" real phone numbers such as your local police department

And for that annoying telemarketer...

Keep a whistle by the telephone



Robocalls on your cell phone?



Amount Pavable 🕹 🗖 🖪 🗖 🗖

You will never win a foreign lottery

Don't believe the mail, the guy on the phone or the e-mail!

CRIME WATCH

Man, 85, loses \$280,000 in scam

CARLSBAD — An 85-year-old retiree hoping to win big in the "Canadian Lottery" ended up losing nearly \$280,000 in a telephone scam, police said.

Authorities are warning residents about the scam, which begins with a telephone call, often to a senior citizen, congratulating the person for winning a huge prize.

Victims are told that to claim the prize, they need to wire funds to cover "tariffs and attorney fees" because the money is coming from outside the country, Detective Rob Shelton said.

The latest victim, a World War II fighter pilot, wired almost \$280,000 in a few weeks, losing nearly 20 percent of his assets. The victim lives in a nursing home, police said.

"It's become a problem with our seniors," Shelton said. "They seem to be taken in and are gullible. He was so convinced he had won the lottery. It makes your heart just go out."

People are warned that such "prize calls" are probably fake

and should be reported to the police.

— Elena Gaona

Mr. Greenwood:

I am a retired catholic priest and former Army Chaplain. I was recently involved in a "fraud" by a gentleman who claimed to be an attorney for the Publishers Clearance House. I was sent a notice that I was the grand prize winner of \$1,600,000.00 and that i must follow the directions given me in order to receive the prize. After many telephonic calls and assurances I was directed to first send a check of \$41,000.00 which would cover all the federal and state taxes incurred. I envisioned the financial help I would be giving to a high school and church because of paying just a rather small sum for the full prize amount. How naive I was. After weeks of communication and my final attempt to finalize the deal, I realized that the check I was mailed was a fake and the phone number I tried calling was "no longer in operation". I lost half my life savings and probably will never recover the amount; but I would do anything to prevent this happening to anyone else. I would be happy to meet with you if at all possible.



September 10th, 2014

Dear Miss.

This letter is sent to you in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. We were able to confirm you were selected as the Second Place Award winner at the California State Lottery DEPT. 2014 Nationwide Drawing. This entitles you to a total amount of \$950,000.

While we are very happy to assist you in the delivery of your Award, we are invested in preventing any type of legal or illegitimate activity during the process of your claim. For this we have begun operations with US Customs & Border Protection and with the National Treasury. You will be fully notified of the procedures to be followed in claiming your award.

For more information please contact your agent that is representing you Mister Dave Carson at 1-305-407-1542, during business hours 7am to 5pm EST. All of your documents are being taken care of by your agent we will keep their department posted.

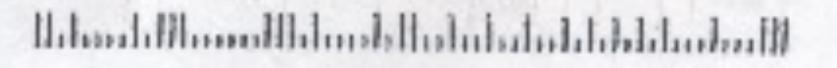
Once again Congratulations!!!



555 West Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60661, USA De Partout jusqu'à vous [][]][]
From anywhere to anyone [][][][]
090425 00:18 H4T 180 112 [][][][]



9201932642 ROO1





Thursday, April 23, 2009

the team at **Pepsi Co.** © is delighted to announce your name as one of the Grand Prize Winners in the **Pepsi** © '**Play for a Billion**' contest in partnership with the **abc** © Network.

Congratulations, you have won the total amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000 USD)! You will also be appearing on the **abc** © Network in front of a Live Studio Audience during Prime Time Television for your chance to win One Billion Dollars.

Pepsi Co. © has made all the necessary arrangements in order for you to receive your prize. Enclosed in this envelope is a certified check to cover any outstanding fees that have not been paid by Pepsi Co. © directly.

Representative: Mr. Tom Ford 1-(866)-544-7541 Ext #1

Prize Claim Number: W098KW211

It is very important that you contact your representative without any delay BEFORE depositing this check and for further information on your prize.

You care obligated by U.S. Federal law to keep the **Prize Claim Number** and **Prize information highly confidential** for your safety and security.

Congratulations again.

Security Bar Code:

Albert Brewman

Executive Director of Marketing

Tip#8



The IRS will NEVER call you!!!

NEVER!

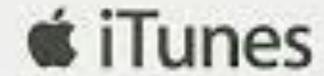
Your grandson will NEVER be calling you from jail

The grandma scam.....

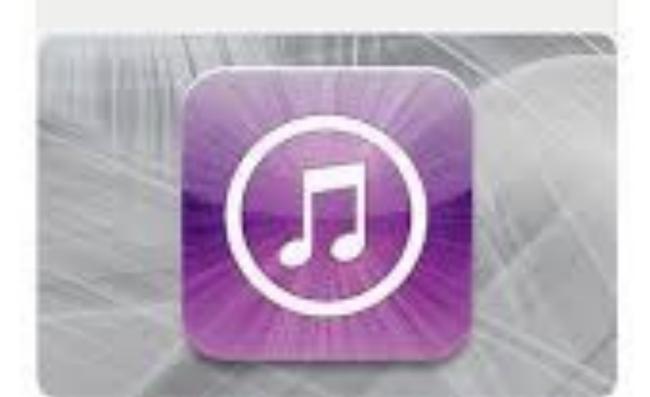




\$100



Get the latest music, movies, TV shows, games, apps, and more.





And now...



And now we also face the challenge of Al & how that will impact older adults..

'The Godfather of A.I.' Leaves Google and Warns of Danger Ahead

For half a century, Geoffrey Hinton nurtured the technology at the heart of chatbots like ChatGPT. Now he worries it will cause serious harm.



Just this week...

Apple co-founder says AI may make scams harder to spot

() 6 hours ago





By Philippa Wain

Technology reporter

Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak has warned that artificial intelligence (AI) could make scams and misinformation harder to spot.

And we are already hearing about....

Home / Consumer Alerts

Vea esta página

Consumer Alert

Scammers use AI to enhance their family emergency schemes



Tip # 10

Don't look for love in all the wrong places!

Two major types of this scam

The face to face con artist

They seek out their victims in various places..

- Parking lots
- Places of faith
- •Door to door
- Casinos
- Grocery stores

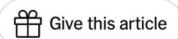




Meet Kate Kleinert...

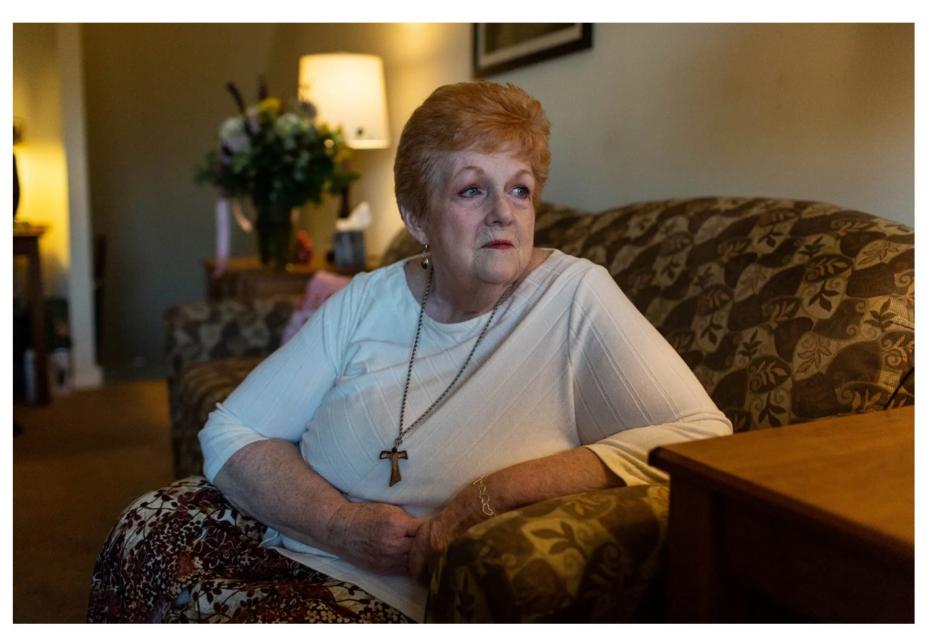
Retirees Are Losing Their Life Savings to Romance Scams. Here's What to Know.

Con artists are using dating sites to prey on lonely people, particularly older ones, in a pattern that accelerated during the isolation of the pandemic, federal data show.









Kate Kleinert of Lancaster County, Pa., was the victim of a romance scam in 2020 that she said left her destitute. Federal officials say older Americans are increasingly being targeted in such schemes. Amanda Mustard for The New York Times

And some victims can become "mules" and potentially face prosecution...

Money Mule DD D Scams

If someone sends you money and asks you to send it to someone else, STOP. You could be what some people call a money mule — someone scammers use to transfer and launder stolen money.

Scammers often ask you to buy gift cards or wire money. They might recruit you through online job ads, prize offers, or dating websites.

Scammers:



Send you a check



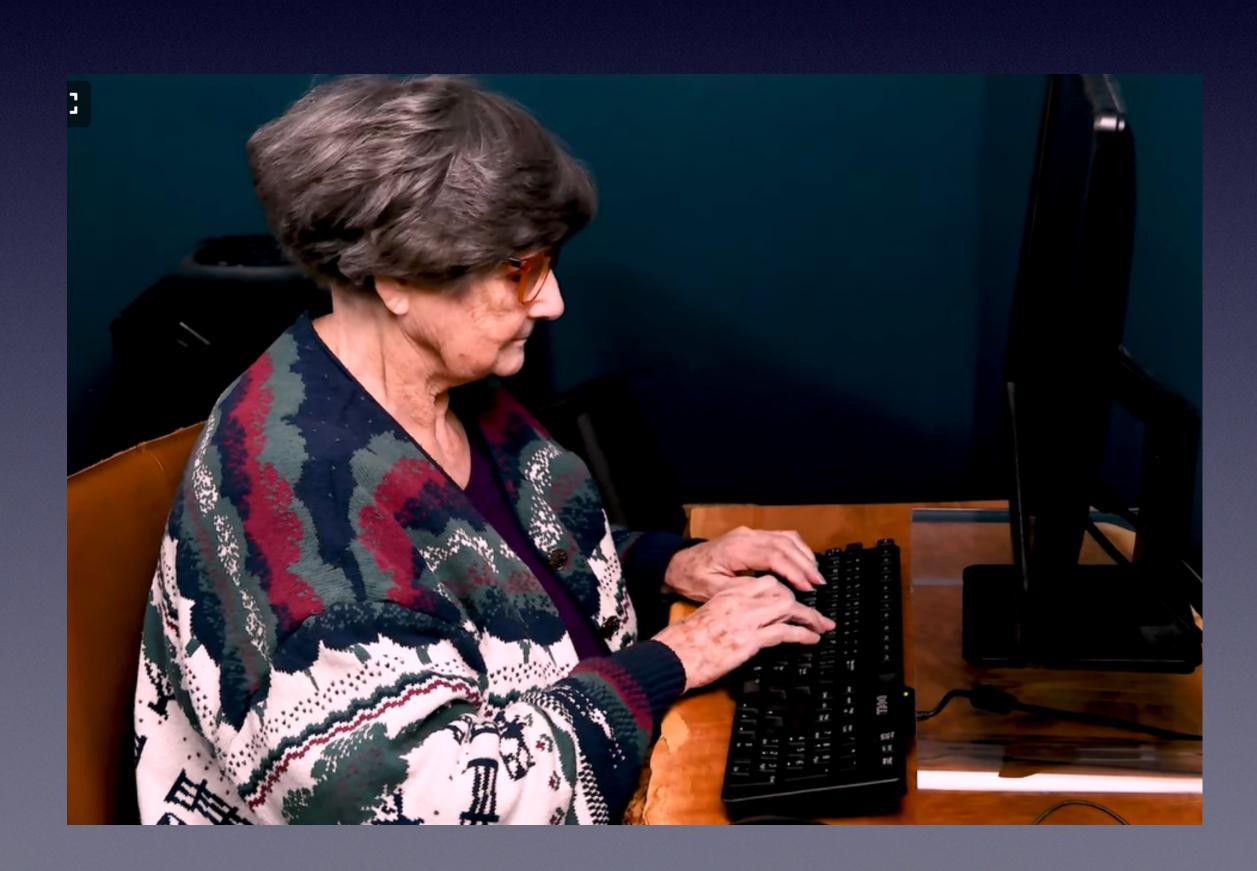
Tell you to send some of the money to someone else



When you later find out the check was bad, you could be stuck covering the entire amount of the check, including what you sent. And that might overdraw your account.

And the need to WARN victims that they can end up becoming defendants...

Meet 81 year old Glenda Seim from Missouri...



Glenda was sentenced last month to 5 years probation...



Tip

Don't assume the friendly handyman is licensed Always check with BBB & Contractors State License Board [CSLB]

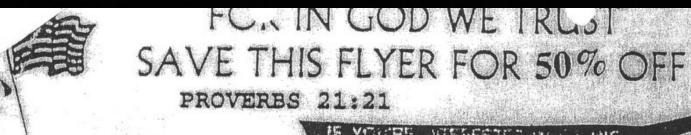
When hiring a contractor..

Get at least three estimates

Do NOT pay more than 10% or \$1,000 [whichever is less] up front

Insist on a written contract

Photograph the progress [or lack of it]



FOR THAT
"LIKE VEH" LOOK
PAINT NOW!!





Modern Day Craftsmen

Father and Daughter's Christian Construction Co.

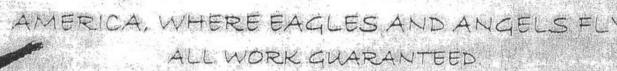
Family Owned and operated. Serving all Southern CA.

WE ARE A PROUD FAMILY, LICENSED, BONDED, AND INSURED

Five Generations of General Contractors.

"We will do anything from cleaning a toilet to building a house.

Because WE need your word of mouth."





Specializing in:

Painting: 2 colors & coats for the price of one, with special long lasting application. Roofing: All types, new or just repaired. Plus water sanding and pressurized wooden shake roofing. Water Sanding: Pressure wash with 3500 psi (old wood, stone, concrete). Turns everything old look like NEW. It's a magic machine! Concrete: Driveways, Sidewalks, Foundations, Patios, etc. Also Stucco. Masonry: Stone, Brick, Marble, Granite. Interior/Exterior. Asphalt: Seal coating & repairs. Fences: Wood, Steel, Brick, & Stone. Framing: Room Additions, Garages, Staircases and more. Porches & Decks: Gazebos, wood decks, and enclosures. We build many designs. Flooring: Tile, hardwood, linoleum, any type of flooring. Plumbing: Installation of sinks, bath tubs/showers, and toilets. Electrical: Lighting, light fixtures, plugs, wiring. Doors & Windows: Many designs to choose from. Complete Interior Remodeling and so much More!



JESUS BLESS AMERICA

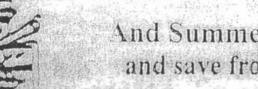
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, That whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



Exhibit #5

BUILD NOW!

SUMMER SAVINGS



And Summer Saving's Call Now and save from 50 % to 75 % OFF.

the rainy season is here. What room do you wish to be standing in when you take your shower.



One of the last cases I completed...



THE WORST

GARAGE DOOR COMPANY
IN THE NATION

By Tom Wadsworth, CDDC Editor, Door + Access Systems

GDS* TECHNICIAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FELONIES

n a first for the garage door industry, a technician has been convicted of multiple felonies, all pertaining to nothing more than his garage door repair work. The case may have repercussions for garage door repair companies that charge high rates for garage door repair work.

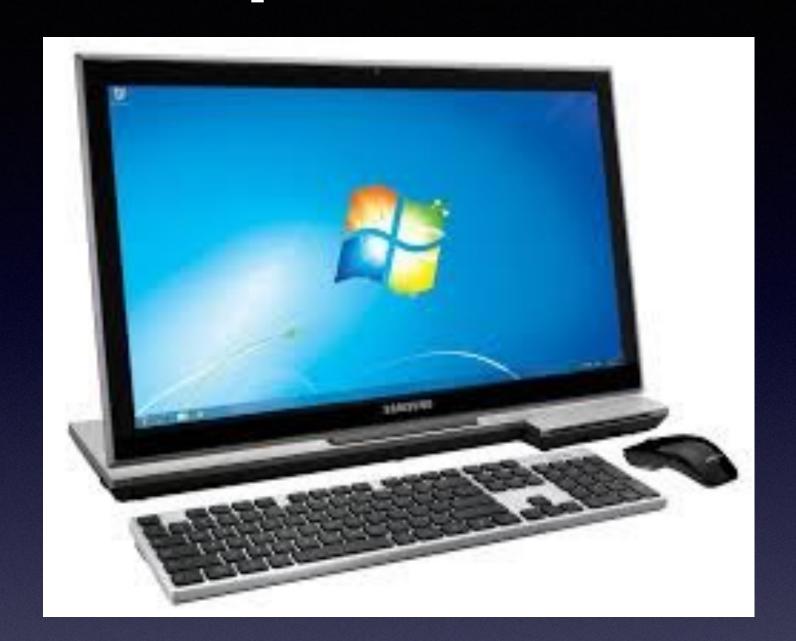
On July 7, Tim Patterson, 44, former leading technician for GDS, pleaded guilty in Superior Court of San Diego County to four felony counts of "elder financial abuse." In California, such a felony involves the theft of more than \$950 from someone over 65. By pleading guilty, Patterson avoided a jury trial and likely influenced a lesser sentence from

2016 and, upon being made aware, ensured he was no longer an employee with our business.

"We have received complaints from former customers of Mr. Patterson's, and in nearly all instances the business reached a satisfactory resolution. We encourage anyone who believes they were treated unfairly by Mr. Patterson to contact us so we can work towards resolving any complaints."

Key factors

Tip # 12



•If someone calls you and says there is something wrong with your computer, just hang up!

Hijacking your computer

• • •

Tip # 13



Always have a second line of defense at your front door

Watch out for "officials" who want to gain entry

Tip # 14

Please do not leave your purse in your shopping cart...

Tip#15

If someone offers to update your living trust or promises you a better return on your investments....

beware!

Trust Mill scams

Other Investment Frauds...

All that glitters: As elder abuse rates soar, some fell for phony jewel scam

Peter Rowe

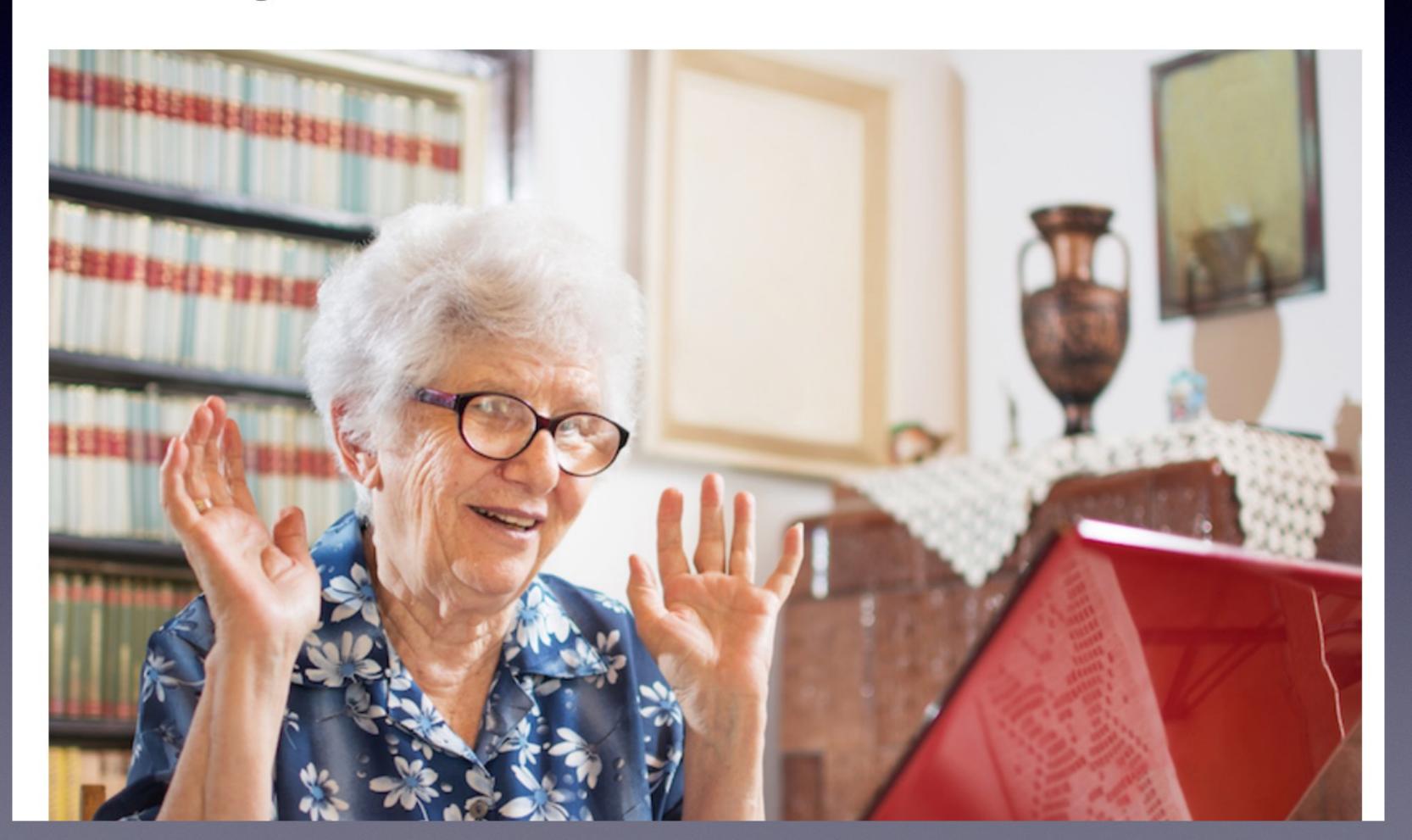


Social Isolation and the Risk of Investment Fraud



Pandemic makes seniors more vulnerable to fraud, regulators warn

Social isolation has contributed to seniors' fraud risk, according to an alert from NASAA





William Neil "Doc" Gallagher (courtesy: Gallagher Financial Group website)

In 2020, he pleaded guilty to similar charges in Dallas County and was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

'Money Doctor' Sentenced To 3 Life Terms For Ripping Off North Texans In Ponzi Scheme

FORT WORTH (CBSDFW.COM) – William Neil "Doc" Gallagher, the self-styled "Money Doctor," was sentenced to three life sentences in prison — plus another 30 years behind bars — in Fort Worth Monday, Nov. 1.

The sentences were a result of his guilty plea on August 31, 2021, to charges stemming from a Ponzi scheme he ran in Hurst that bilked senior citizens out of millions of dollars.

Tip # 16

Never give to a "charity" that calls or solicits you

Bogus charities & questionable tactics by legitimate charities

Tip#17

If you are considering recommending that someone have a guardian/conservator...

You may want to ...

Read this article...

News

Culture

Books

Business & Tech

Humor

Cartoons

Magazine

Video

Podcasts

Archive

Goings On

Subscribe

A REPORTER AT LARGE OCTOBER 9, 2017 ISSUE

HOW THE ELDERLY LOSE THEIR RIGHTS

Guardians can sell the assets and control the lives of senior citizens without their consent —and reap a profit from it.

By Rachel Aviv



And watch this documentary



THE GUARDIANS



開闢 J.B. SUGAR BILLIE MINTZ 中開闢 ELLA MYERS ****** J.B. SUGAR BILLIE MINTZ











They used their position to steal funds belonging to elderly and disabled adults over whom they had guardianship authority through use of a series of fraudulent billing practices.

Tip # 18

If you receive an e-mail indicating that your "subscription" has been autorenewed...

From: Gibson Way gibsonway660@gmail.com

Subject: RENEWAL #NRLL1098AI
Date: March 30, 2021 at 7:23 AM
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Bcc: pgreendda@gmail.com



Norton Life Lock™

YOUR SERVICE EXPIRED TODAY

Thank you for using our Norton Security for the past one year!

We wanted to remind you that you have chosen the Auto Renewal option. You will be billed from your saved card details for the annual amount of your plan upon expiration of your contract on Tuesday, 30th March 2021.

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Norton 360 Life Lock Now Includes Smart Firewall, Password Manager & 2GB Cloud Storage	1	USD 315.15	USD 315.15
		Billed Amount	USD 315.15

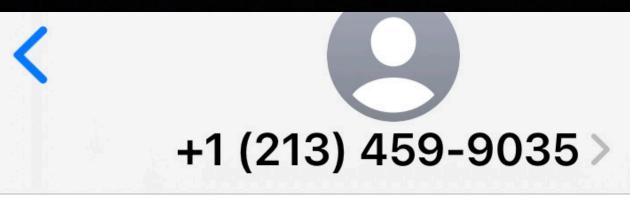
Deduction of the amount will appear on your Account within the next 24 to 48 hrs. If you have any question or wish to refund & cancel the renewal kindly call us back on +1 (833) - (328) - (0758) Toll Free, within the next two working days.

Thanks,
Norton Life Lock

It is a scam... Delete!!

And what about smishing?

A text I received on my smart phone recently...



Text Message Today 5:48 AM

[U.S Postal] - The delivery of your item failed due to an incorrect house number. Fill in address online for redelivery.

https://www.uspsngo.com

So if you think that someone you know may be a victim of elder abuse....

Call your local APS...

Adult Protective Services

Florida law requires the reporting of known or suspected abuse, neglect, abandonment, exploitation, or self-neglect of vulnerable adults (elderly or disabled). The Florida Abuse Hotline accepts reports 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. If you suspect or know of a vulnerable adult in immediate danger, call 911.

How to Report >



1-800-962-2873

Report Adult Abuse Online >

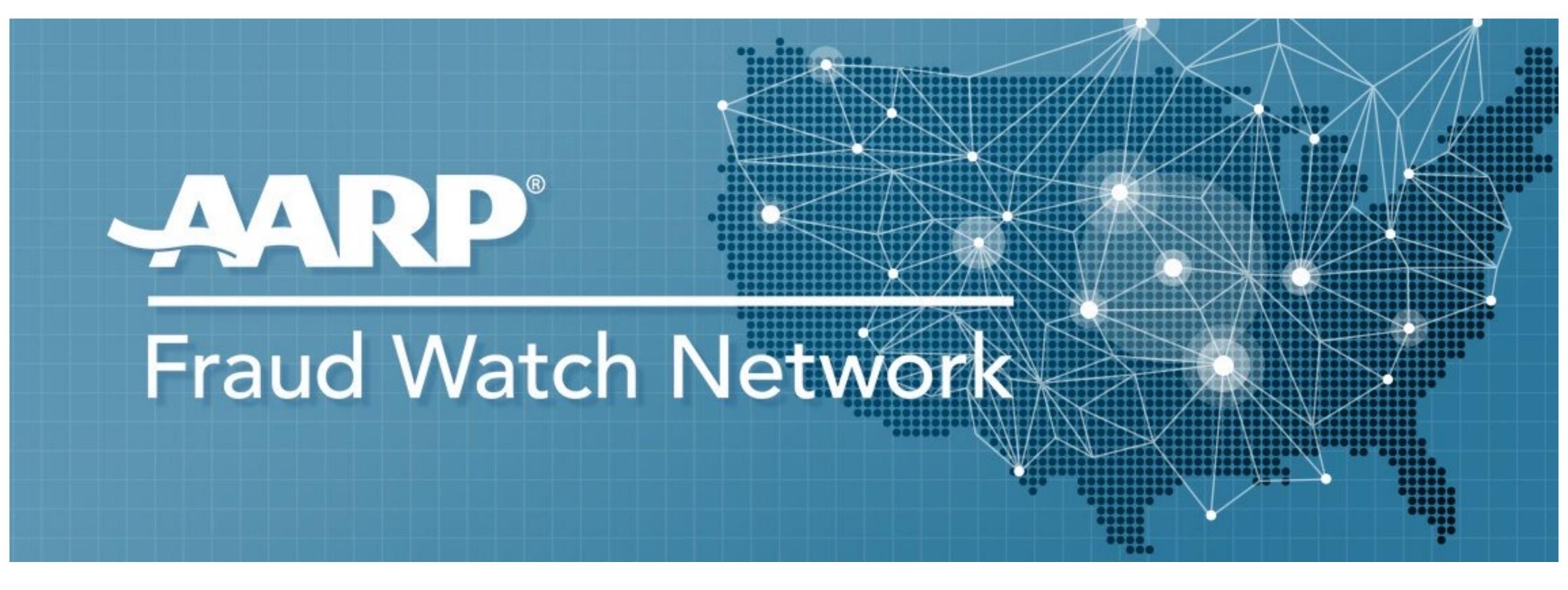
1-800-962-2873

And if the situation is urgent..

Call the police or Sheriff..

www.aarp.org/fraudwatch

network



A Message to Seniors:

- We respect and honor you!
- We commit to seeking justice for you
- We prosecute with:
- Passion
- Purpose
- Perseverance

Please feel free to contact me:

- Paul Greenwood
 - 442-257-2984
- paul@greenwoodlawcorp.com
- www.greenwoodlawcorp.com