TECHNICAL OVERVIEW

- If you are experiencing any technical issues with the audio for this session, please let us know in the feedback box.
- If you have technical difficulties during the webinar, contact Jason Adams, who is providing technical support for this webinar. His email address is jadams@ovcttac.org.
- Today’s session will be recorded and made available on the training website.
- If you have questions, type them in the feedback box. We will address as many as possible throughout the webinar.
PRESENTERS

Andy Mao, J.D.
Deputy Director (Fraud Section)/Elder Justice Initiative Coordinator, U.S. Department of Justice

Julie Schoen, J.D.
Deputy Director, National Center on Elder Abuse
USC Center on Elder Mistreatment
Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California
WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?
THE WAVE IS COMING

U.S. Senior Population 1900 – 2050*

Percent Age 65 and Over


* population projection
Abused seniors are **3X MORE LIKELY TO DIE** than non-abused seniors.

**Cognitive Decline is a Risk Factor** for elder abuse, including **Financial Exploitation**.

Aproximately **1 IN 10 SENIORS** is abused **EACH YEAR**.

Abused seniors are **MORE LIKELY** to be **PLACED IN NURSING HOMES** than non-abused seniors.

Elder abuse is **DRAMATICALLY UNDERREPORTED**. Only **1 IN EVERY 23 CASES** gets reported to Adult Protective Services.
ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The **mission** is to support and coordinate the Department of Justice’s enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target older adults.

The Initiative does so by—

- Promoting justice for older adults.
- Helping older victims and their families.
- Enhancing state and local efforts through training and resources.
- Supporting research to improve elder abuse policy and practice.
What DOJ Is Doing

Victim Services
- Increasing access to civil legal services
- Assisting victims and their families to identify available resources, information and services

Research & Capacity Building
- Funding critical research on elder abuse and financial exploitation
- Developing resources for rural service providers to effectively respond to elder abuse
- Developing resources to enhance collaboration with local faith communities

Training & Raising Public Awareness
Supporting the development of training and resources for state and local
- Prosecutors
- Judges
- Law enforcement
- Civil legal aid attorneys
- Victim specialists

Law Enforcement
- Investigating and prosecuting financial scams targeting or disproportionately impacting seniors
- Pursuing nursing homes that provide grossly substandard care to seniors
- Promoting greater federal, state and local coordination to combat elder abuse
ELDER JUSTICE TASK FORCES

- Ten regional Elder Justice Task Forces launched in March 2016
  - Located in California, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Washington state.
- Goal: To enhance coordination and cooperation among interested stakeholders to pursue nursing homes that provide grossly substandard care and other forms of elder financial exploitation
- Focus areas include case work, training, and community outreach
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEDAR RAPIDS WOMAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR DEFRAUDING ELDERLY COUPLE OUT OF MORE THAN $100,000

A woman who defrauded an elderly couple out of more than $100,000 was sentenced yesterday to nearly three years in federal prison.

Tea Lynnette Ware, 37, from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, received the prison term after a June 9, 2016 guilty plea to two counts of mail fraud and one count of using a fictitious name in mail fraud.

At the plea hearing, and in a plea agreement, Ware admitted that from about September 2015 through February 2016, Ware participated in a scheme to defraud an elderly Illinois woman during which the victim was falsely told she had won a lottery and was entitled to large sums of money. The victim was also told the winnings or funds could be claimed only if she first mailed Ware money for purported taxes or fees. In truth, no such winnings existed and the calls were designed only to steal from the victim and her husband, a resident of a long-term care facility with dementia. Like many senior citizens in the United States, the couple received unsolicited telephone calls; they even changed their telephone number to avoid unsolicited calls, but such calls nonetheless resumed after they changed their phone number.

Ware was sentenced in Cedar Rapids to 33 months’ imprisonment. A special assessment of $300 was imposed, and she was ordered to make $108,000 in restitution to her victims. Further, Ware forfeited $4,100,000 that the government seized prior to Ware’s indictment. Ware must also serve a three-year term of supervised release after the prison term. There is no parole in the federal system.

“Whether abuse occurs in nursing homes or involves financial fraud schemes such as the one in which Ms. Ware participated, this office and the Elder Justice Task Force are committed to pursuing justice for the elderly,” said United States Attorney Kevin Tracy. “We will continue to work with our partners to hold accountable those who seek to financially exploit the most vulnerable in our society. I wish to thank the Postal Inspection Service and the FBI for their hard work investigating this case.”
Elder Justice Initiative (EJI)

REPORT ABUSE OR FIND HELP

New on ElderJustice.gov

EJI launches the MDT Toolkit and Guide for elder abuse case review MDTs

Elder abuse is a complex issue that intersects with many disciplines.

Elder abuse can happen to anyone. It affects people of every ethnic background, gender, and financial status.
THE NATIONAL CENTER ON ELDER ABUSE
NCEA GOAL STATEMENT

To improve the national response to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation by

a) gathering, housing, and disseminating current information,

b) stimulating and identifying new approaches, and

c) detecting and addressing gaps in the field

We will be the entity others look to when they need state-of-the-art information and we will push the field forward.
RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

NCEA ACL website
- FAQs
- Calendar of Events

University of Southern California Websites
- Training Resources on Elder Abuse (TREA)
- Center on Elder Mistreatment, NCEA page

Connect with NCEA
- Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Twitter Chat, Storify, Blog
- E-newsletter & Listserv
USC CENTER ON ELDER MISTREATMENT

http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/
TRAINING RESOURCES ON ELDER ABUSE (TREA)

http://trea.usc.edu/
CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@NationalCenteronElderAbuse
@NCEAatUSC
storify.com/NCEAatUSC
gero.usc.edu/cda_blog/

NCEA e-Newsletter and NIH Elder Abuse Listserv
e-mail ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov to join
CONNECT WITH NCEA

National Center on Elder Abuse
1-855-500-3537 (ELDR)
ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov

NCEA, ACL Website:
https://ncea.acl.gov/

NCEA, USC Center on Elder Mistreatment Website:
http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/

Training Resources on Elder Abuse (TREA):
www.trea.usc.edu
The Eldercare Locator
National Call Center

Eldercare locator
Connecting You to Community Services
National Call Center
The National Aging Service Network

622 Area Agencies on Aging

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
1-800-677-1116

www.eldercare.gov
Eldercare Locator Database

Elder Abuse Prevention

Adult Protective Services

Address: 801 East Main Street
City: Richmond
State: VA
Zip: 23219
Website: http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/asp/aps.cgi
Information Phone: (888) 832-3858
State Phone: (888) 832-3858
Languages: English
Description: APS investigates reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults 60 years of age or older and incapacitated adults age 18 or older.
Special Notes: Service available 24 hours a day. To report suspected adult abuse, neglect or exploitation, call your local department of social services or the 24-hour, toll-free Adult Protective Services hotline at: (888) 832-3858.
Directions: View on map

Counties Covered:
- Accomack
- Albemarle
- Alexandria City
- Alleghany
- Amelia
- Amherst
- Appomattox
- Arlington
- Augusta
- Bath
- Bedford
- Bland
- Botetourt
- Bristol
- Brunswick
- Buchanan
- Buckingham

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
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QUESTIONS & SUGGESTIONS

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