

Understand Your Legal Issue

Solve Your Legal Problem

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Elder Abuse

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What are some facts about elder abuse?

According to the National Area Agency on Aging, 1 of every 20 elderly people will be the victim of abuse:

- physical abuse
- neglect
- exploitation

What are the types of elder abuse?

- Physical Abuse is the assault or unreasonable confinement of an elderly person
- Neglect is the lack of sufficient and appropriate care by caregivers or themselves
- Exploitation is the misuse of an elderly person's property or financial resources

Who abuses?

Studies indicate that family members most often perpetrate physical abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older persons. Abuse occurs in all classes of society and takes place in cities, small towns, suburbs, and rural areas.

What are some strategies to help prevent elder abuse?

- Increase public and professional awareness of the occurrence of physical abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the elderly.
- Recognize that elderly abuse, which was once thought to be a "nursing home problem," has emerged into family care settings.
- Provide victims of elderly abuse with the ability to recognize the problem and the motivation and support to take steps to remedy the situation.
- Encourage the public to report elderly abuse.

Where can I go for help?

If you have reason to believe that an aged person or an adult with a disability is being or has been abused, neglected, or exploited, you should immediately report such knowledge or suspicion to the Florida Abuse Hotline: **1-800-96-ABUSE**. The Central Abuse Registry of the State of Florida will conduct an investigation within 24 hours of the report.

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Links:

Stop Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation of the Elderly!

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<http://www.floridalawhelp.org/node/176/elder-abuse>

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