



Getting help for elder financial exploitation

- Elder financial exploitation often goes unreported.
- Many people don't know what to do if they suspect elder financial exploitation. These resources can help.
- Remember, you do not need to prove that abuse is occurring to report it. It is up to the professionals to take action if you suspect abuse.

AGING SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Find out if your community has a Tribal Elder Protection Team or similar entity in place. This may be the first place to report suspected financial abuse or exploitation. You may also want to contact your tribal social services office. Ask for adult protective services.
- If you are unsure of the tribal entity that manages eldercare in your community, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116. Trained information specialists are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET. You can also search for a local adult protective services agency at eldercare.gov.
- Contacting your local Area Agency on Aging. To locate your local agency, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 or search at eldercare.gov.
- If you live outside an area covered by a tribal government, contact your community's Adult Protective Services and/or local police.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- You may want to contact your tribal police force. To locate your tribal police, contact the special agent in charge in your district: bia.gov/bia/ojs/contact-us.
- You can also report financial fraud to your tribal government and/or your state's attorney general office. Use this locator to find the office in your state: naag.org/naag/attorneys-general/whos-my-ag.php.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

- You may feel you need legal assistance to help you, for example, with getting back money or property that was taken or to protect the elder from additional exploitation. If you need legal advice or representation, contact a federally-funded legal assistance program for people 60 and older, known as Title IIIB legal services programs. Title IIIB legal services programs can provide legal assistance on issues such as income security, health care, long-term care, nutrition, housing, utilities, protective services, defense of guardianship, abuse, neglect, and age discrimination, as well as financial exploitation.
- Legal assistance in these programs is targeted towards older individuals in social and economic need. Each program has its own priorities and eligibility guidelines regarding case acceptance and areas of representation.

- Legal assistance for seniors may be located within your local legal services program. You can find out about your local legal assistance programs by using:

- Legal Services Corporation legal aid locator at lsc.gov/what-legal-aid/find-legal-aid
- Pine Tree Legal Assistance’s list of legal services links—including Indian legal services—by state at ptla.org/legal-services-links.
- National Indian Legal Services at judicare.org/content.cfm?PageID=52.

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

- If you’re having a problem with a bank account, credit card, student loan, consumer loan or other financial products or services you can submit a complaint with the CFPB at cfpb.gov/complaint.
- You can report scams, rip offs and unwanted telemarketing through the FTC website: ftccomplaintassistant.gov.

IDENTITY THEFT

- If you suspect that identity theft has occurred, you can report this to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at ftc.gov/idtheft or by calling 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).
- The FTC has an online toolkit that includes a detailed guide for protecting your information, with instructions and sample letters to help spot and respond to identity theft: Taking Charge: What to Do If Your Identity Is Stolen. You can find it here: consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0009-taking-charge.pdf.