

## WHAT IS ELDER SAFE?

Elder Safe is a program administered through the Washington County Sheriff's Office which assists crime victims living in Washington County. Elder Safe helps individuals aged 65 and older after they report a crime and continues to help them through the criminal justice process. Elder Safe services include:

### Victims' Assistance

Volunteer victim advocates provide crime victims with emotional support and information relating to the criminal justice system and their case.

### Community Education

Elder Safe provides community education on elder abuse issues and has speakers available to make presentations. To arrange for a speaker or to volunteer with Elder Safe call 503-846-6048.

## THE FACTS

**Elder Safe serves approximately 1,000 elderly crime victim's annually in Washington County.**

- More than 60 abuse and neglect reports are made locally each month
- Only 20% of elder abuse cases are reported to authorities
- Elders 80 and older are much more likely to be abused
- In many elder abuse cases, the perpetrator is known to the victim and is often an adult child, spouse, or trusted caregiver

*"When crime strikes, elder victims are often reluctant to tell anyone about the situation because they are afraid or ashamed. Elder Safe advocates provide seniors with information, support, and respectful understanding."*

Sheriff Rob Gordon

## WHO CAN HELP ME?

*If you are in **immediate** danger, call **911**.*

**To report abuse call your local police department or Washington County Disability, Aging & Veteran Services at 503-640-3489.**

Adult Protective Service Staff can:

- Investigate complaints of elder abuse and/or neglect (which includes assessment of the individual at risk)
- Assist in or arrange for appropriate services or alternate living arrangements
- Assist in linking the individual to medical, legal, transportation or other needed services, including guardianship or conservatorship for incapacitated adults
- Provide advocacy to assure the individual's rights and entitlements are protected

***ELDER ABUSE IS AGAINST THE LAW!***

## WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?

Any knowing, reckless, intentional, or negligent act that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a person age 65 and older. Elder abuse may take many forms, including:

- Illegal taking, misuse or concealment of funds, property or assets
- Physical or sexual abuse
- Inflicting mental pain through verbal or nonverbal acts
- Neglect, including refusal or failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, health care, or protection
- Abandonment or desertion by anyone who has assumed the responsibility for care or custody

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Washington County Disability, Aging & Veteran Services

[www.co.washington.or.us/aging](http://www.co.washington.or.us/aging)  
503-640-3489

### Protective Orders Assistance

[www.dvrc.or.org](http://www.dvrc.or.org)  
503-846-3830

### Oregon Attorney General's Consumer Hotline

[www.doj.state.or.us](http://www.doj.state.or.us)  
1-877-877-9392 (toll free)

### Crime Victims' Compensation

[www.doj.state.or.us/CrimeV/comp.shtm](http://www.doj.state.or.us/CrimeV/comp.shtm)  
1-503-378-5348 (Salem)

### Oregon Division of Finance & Corporate Securities

[www.dfcs.oregon.gov](http://www.dfcs.oregon.gov)  
1-866-814-9710 (toll free)

### Oregon Construction Contractors Board

[www.ccb.state.or.us](http://www.ccb.state.or.us)  
1-503-378-4621 (Salem)



# Elder Safe and Crime Prevention

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