



Protect Texas Adults



Help Protect Vulnerable Adults

Adult Protective Services (APS) investigates and helps stop abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation to keep vulnerable adults safe.

You can make a difference by recognizing and reporting abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation.

Learn more at ProtectTexasAdults.org.

Signs of Abuse, Neglect, and Financial Exploitation



Abuse may cause various injuries such as scratches, cuts, bruises, burns, broken bones, or bedsores. It can also include confinement, rape or sexual misconduct, and verbal and psychological abuse.

Neglect may lead to starvation, dehydration, incorrect dosage of medication, unsanitary living conditions, and lack of personal hygiene. Often neglected adults may not have air conditioning, heat, running water, electricity, or medical care.

More than half of all cases reported to APS involve neglect, and most of those are self-neglect. Self-neglect can occur when someone is not able to take care of his or her own physical needs.

Financial Exploitation is a serious crime and occurs when someone misuses or attempts to misuse another person's resources for personal benefit. This usually happens when a caretaker, family member, or person with an ongoing relationship with the vulnerable adult has used or attempted to use the adult's financial resources.

Financial exploitation may deprive people of their property, money, or income. This includes taking money, Social Security checks, property, or misusing a joint checking account. Often those who experience financial exploitation are unable to meet their own needs, resulting in neglect.

Some Signs of Financial Exploitation



- Unpaid bills despite available funds.
- Unusual bank account activity, especially withdrawals or frequent checks made out to cash.
- Names added to bank accounts or signature cards.
- Legal documents such as wills or loans are signed by an adult who seems incapable of understanding them.
- Forged documents.

Report abuse on the Texas Abuse Hotline

800-252-5400

TxAbuseHotline.org

Protect Texas Adults

Scan the QR code and find out how you can help.



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Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services
Adult Protective Services