

Report Older Adult Abuse/ Exploitation/Neglect

Contact Us

Carrollton Branch
2 S Folger St
PO Box 187

Carrollton, MO 64633
Phone: (660) 542-2050
Toll Free: (800) 656-2050

Hale Branch
201 Main St
PO Box 188

Hale, MO 64643
Phone: (660) 565-2212
Fax: (660) 565-2445

cctconline.com
contactus@cctconline.com
Telephone Banking: (866) 599-2282

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)
1-855-411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov

Medicare Fraud
1-800-633-4227
www.medicare.gov

Resources

Eldercare Locator
1-800-677-1116
<https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx>

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Elder Justice Initiative
<https://www.elderjustice.gov>

VictimConnect Resource Center
1-855-484-2846
<https://victimconnect.org/>

Carroll County Trust Company

About

Carroll County Trust Company has been serving the financial needs of our community for over a century. Our experienced team is dedicated to helping customers achieve their goals with a range of products and services. Trust us to meet your financial needs.



The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this brochure are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of Carroll County Trust Company.

Older Adult Financial Exploitation



Typical Reactions

The effects of serious financial crimes can be physically and emotionally devastating. Some common reactions to such crimes include:

- Loss of financial security and independence
- Estrangement of relationships in life
- Feelings of fear, shame, guilt, anger, self-doubt, or remorse
- Financial destitution and the loss of financial independence
- Becoming reliant on government assistance programs
- Depression, loss of perceived reasons to live, hopelessness

Tips to Protect Yourself

- Check your financial statements each month for any suspicious activity
- Never send money to someone you don't know personally
- Know that fraudsters often pose as interested romantic partners on the internet
- Practice cyber security - use updated security software
- Never give your credit card, banking, Social Security, Medicare, or other personally identifiable information over the phone unless it is with a trusted, verified number or website
- Always consult your doctor before purchasing health products or treatments
- Screen your phone calls using voicemail. You do not need to respond to everyone who calls

Introduction

Older adult abuse and exploitation refer to any intentional act(s) by a caregiver or another person in a relationship of trust that causes harm or distress to older adults, age 60 and older. These crimes may include physical, sexual, psychological/emotional abuse, abandonment, and financial exploitation. Abusers can be anyone: family members, caregivers, people you trust, healthcare professionals, companies, financial advisors, or strangers, including people who may have contacted you on the phone or through social media.

Older adult financial fraud is a form of older adult exploitation where a person misuses or steals financial assets, savings, income, or personal identifying information (e.g., SSN) from an older adult, often without their direct knowledge or consent.

Fraudsters often use deception and misinformation on older adults, and in the past have posed as persons in positions of trust (e.g., government employees), romantic interests, or as persons promising a financial windfall in exchange for a credit card number or other personally identifiable information.

In each of these situations, victims may be deprived of vital financial resources needed to cover basic living expenses. Victims often experience financial, emotional, and physical hardship as a result of these crimes. If you are in any of these situations or think that you may be a victim of older adult abuse, help is available!

Examples of Frauds & Scams

Some of the most common scams targeting older Americans include:

- Scammers posing as tech support to use scare tactics to trick an older adult into paying for unnecessary tech support services to supposedly fix a software program
- Lottery and sweepstakes fraud
- Pretend romantic attention towards an older adult commonly known as “Romance Scams”
- Scammers posing as government employees, like the IRS or FBI, requiring payment for a fee or penalty

It's Your Right

If something seems concerning to you or “too good to be true,” consider the following actions:

- Seeking independent verification of the other party by contacting local law enforcement or a local FBI office
- Saying ‘no’ to requests for money from unfamiliar or unverified sources
- Terminating contact with the individual or company

If you suspect that you may have been a victim of financial fraud or exploitation, consider:

- Closing or canceling your account, or transferring funds to a new account
- Requesting free copies of your credit report from a credit bureau or freezing your credit
- Requesting copies of documents related to any potentially fraudulent activities
- Disputing fraudulent or inaccurate information on your credit report with one of the credit bureaus