APPENDIX B

SAMPLE LETTER FOR FIRST TASK FORCE MEETING

Date

Title, First Name, Last Name of recipient of letter
Agency
Address
Address

Re: Establishment of an Elder Abuse Task Force Collaboration

Dear Title Last Name:

The Institute on Protective Services at Temple University and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging are working in collaboration with all fifty two area agencies on aging to assist in the establishment of elder abuse collaboration units or task forces in each of the Commonwealth's 67 counties. This area agency on aging serves _____county (or counties) and we are routinely involved in the investigation of abuse, neglect or financial exploitation (theft) from older adults in our service area. We often find, upon the completion of the investigation that the older adult is not only in need of the assistance of our agency, but he or she has been criminally victimized.

Given the conditions that we confront, we are writing to ask that you become a collaborating partner with this agency in setting up an elder abuse collaboration or task force. The purpose of this collaboration would be to better identify the needs of older adults in our service area; provide outreach to older adults and their families in order to better protect them; to provide education and training to community leaders that routinely interact with older adults within health care settings, businesses, financial institutions and religious organizations. This endeavor will also seek to coordinate and synchronize our efforts with law enforcement and the district attorneys office.

To move this endeavor forward we are convening an initial meeting to discuss in more detail what collaboration in our community would look like and how we would organize ourselves to move forward. We will have representatives of the Department of Aging and of Temple University present to assist us in conceptualizing how best to achieve the cooperative endeavor we seek to establish.

Please respond with notice that you can or cannot attend this meeting which will occur at Noon at 123 Area Agency Avenue, Anywhere, PA. We will provide luncheon for all attending. We look forward to working with you and your agency.

Sincerely,

Agency Director or PS Director

APPENDIX C

Washington County District Attorney

And

Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

Presents the

Washington County

INTER-AGENCY LETTER OF AGREEMENT

WASHINGTON COUNTY
INTER-AGENCY LETTER OF AGREEMENT

The Washington County District Attorney and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging will coordinate the multi-disciplinary investigation and assessment of cases of elder physical and sexual abuse, neglect and other forms of exploitation in Washington County. Professionals from older adult protective services, prosecution, and law enforcement will work together to ensure that abused and exploited older adults receive comprehensive and sensitive treatment in all aspects of the initial investigation and subsequent intervention. This Agreement is entered into in order to formalize the interagency relationships and to lay the foundation for interagency protocols.

As participants in the elder abuse response team, we, the undersigned agencies, recognize the need for a collaborative response to insure coordination and cooperation among all agencies involved in the elder abuse and exploitation cases in Washington County. A cooperative and coordinated effort will minimize the stress created for the older victim and his or her family by the intervention process, as well as increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the involved agencies. It will promote a thorough understanding of case issues and will assure the most effective system response possible. As such, protocols will be implemented to address an interdisciplinary, coordinated approach to the investigation, prosecution, and the treatment of elder abuse and exploitation cases for the County of Washington, for the purpose of: 1) assisting all agencies in making their determinations as to whether or not abuse or exploitation occurred; 2) resolving all cases of abuse or exploitation in a coordinated and collaborative manner; and 3) holding offenders accountable in both the civil and criminal systems.

By working together we will continually consider ways by which we can improve our practice and procedures.

We recognize that each of the undersigned agencies has specific responsibilities with regard to the investigation, assessment, and prosecution in cases of alleged elder abuse or exploitation. We agree that the multi-disciplinary team approach will serve to enhance the individual efforts of each agency. We support this concept and agree to adhere to the guidelines as outlined. We acknowledge that through this initiative we will be formalizing the operating inter-agency practices and procedures in order to join together in the daily struggle to ensure the safety and protection of older adults in Washington County.

This Agreement applies to all cases of alleged elder abuse and exploitation reported to either the District Attorney's Office or the Protective Services Program, involving individuals sixty (60) years of age or older.

- All reasonable efforts will be made to coordinate each step of the investigation in order to minimize the number of interviews and interviewers to which the elderly victim is subjected.
- As part of case coordination, various mechanisms will be set up to insure inter-agency communication.

1. All involved agencies will participate in monthly case review meetings to share pertinent information related to cases. All parties to this Agreement will participate in case review meetings, depending on the needs of the case.
2. The Washington County District Attorney's Office and the Protective Services for Older Adults Program will track cases through the civil and criminal systems and will coordinate information among agencies.

- In addition to coordinating the initial investigative process, the Washington County District Attorney's Office and the Protective Services Program will provide and/or coordinate the following services when applicable:

    1. Specialized medical evaluations and treatment services
    2. Specialized mental health services
    3. Victim support and advocacy throughout the investigation and prosecution process

- The Washington County District Attorney's Office and the Protective Services Program will promote policies, practices, and procedures that are culturally competent. The Washington County District Attorney's Office and the Protective Program will make provisions for non-English speaking elderly victims and family members, and will provide opportunities for team members and staff to receive on-going training in diversity issues.

It is expressly understood that each agency will work within its own organization's mandates and policies. Nothing contained herein supersedes the statutes, rules, and regulations governing each agency. To the extent that any provision of this Agreement is inconsistent with any such statute, rule, or regulation, the statue, rule, or regulations will control.

Washington County District Attorney Dated:_____

By:_____

SW PA Area Agency on Aging, Inc. Dated:_____
Protective Services for Older Adults

By:_____

ELDER ABUSE INVESTIGATION PROTOCOL

The Protocol for the investigation of reports of elder abuse establishes the nature of the relationship between the Washington County Office of the District Attorney and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc. Protective Services for Older Adults Program, which shall herein be referred to as the "Team."

I. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the team is to protect older adults and to reduce the effects of the trauma of multiple investigations and interviews through a joint Team investigation of physical and sexual abuse, neglect and other forms of exploitation, while continuing to provide services to victims through a multidisciplinary approach.

II. INTAKE/REPORTS

Reports of Elder Abuse will be made primarily to the Protective Services Program and/or the District Attorney Office. Reports made to law enforcement should be forwarded as soon as possible to Protective Services for intake.

III. COORDINATION OF INVESTIGATIONS

Each Agency will follow the investigative policies established by its own program. It is the goal of the Team that all elder abuse cases will begin as team investigations by the Office of the District Attorney and the Protective Services Program. All investigations will be coordinated by the Team to the extent possible so that each Office will be involved from the initial investigation to the resolution of the matter.

IV. INFORMATION SHARING

Members of all investigative Teams will provide their investigative counterparts with any and all information pertinent to the investigation in which they are involved unless otherwise directed by agency policy or state law.

V. ORDER AND LOCATION OF INTERVIEWS

The investigative Team will decide on a case-by-case basis who will assume responsibility for interviewing the victim, the alleged perpetrator, and other witnesses. The Team will decide on the location of the interviews.

A. **Interview with the Alleged Victim.** The investigative Team will determine how this interview will be conducted. The Team should decide who will take the lead in the interview, what interview techniques will be utilized, and who will document the interview.

B. **Interviews with Witnesses**. Investigative Team Members should interview all possible witnesses and others who may have observed behavioral or physical changes in the victim or may have heard statements made by the victim which may support, explain, or provide additional information for follow-up interviews with the victim, other witnesses, or the alleged perpetrator.

C. **Interview with Alleged Perpetrator.** The investigative Team decides who should take the lead in the interview of the alleged perpetrator. The law enforcement member of the investigative Team is usually best prepared to do this. If unique case factors dictate otherwise, or if either law enforcement or Protective Services will not be able to interview the alleged perpetrator within a reasonable time frame, then the other Team member will need to proceed, keeping the other Team member apprised of all relevant information as soon as possible. The lead interviewer will need to be familiar with the facts of the case, the statements of other individuals, and any conflicts in prior statements of the alleged perpetrator, including defects in an alibi, if previously offered. In an interview situation where the custodial status of the alleged perpetrator is unclear, the Protective Services Team member should be present. If the interview occurs in a custodial setting, unless otherwise decided by the investigative Team, the Protective Services investigator will not be present during the interview, but will be provided access to a copy of the perpetrator's statement and the law enforcement report of the matter.

VI. FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMS/EXTENDED ASSESSMENT

The investigative Team must decide at the onset of the investigation whether medical examinations will be required. If the victim has not already been referred to a medical facility, the investigative Team should have the victim examined as soon as possible if necessary. Referrals for forensic medical exams may be made by either Team member. Consultation with the forensic physician who conducts the examination will also be warranted for referral decisions. Reasons for giving exams:

1. General health and mental status
2. Evidence gathering
3. Opportunity for disclosure
4. Reassurance

VII. CRIME SCENE

While Protective Services investigators are not directly involved in search and seizure, it is important that they understand the rules of procedure in this area so as to be alert to possible objects which should be listed in the search warrant and sought by law enforcement.

VIII. VALIDATION DECISION-MAKING

Once all of the evidence has been gathered, the investigative Team needs to decide if it believes that elder abuse was committed and, if so, by whom. This process, called validation, pulls all of the evidence together, including that which supports and refutes the allegation. The decision should be based on seven (7) factors:

1. The victim's statement
2. Statements of other witnesses
3. Medical findings
4. Physical evidence
5. Behavioral indicators
6. Any relevant psychological; information involving the victim or the alleged perpetrator
7. The statement of the alleged perpetrator

IX. PROTOCOL SUMMARY

This protocol was developed to provide guidelines for fostering a multi-disciplinary response to elder physical and sexual abuse, neglect and exploitation within the realm of acceptable professional practices.

>For Membership in the San Francisco Consortium* for Elder Abuse Prevention<

(Note: "Task Force" can be substituted for Consortium)

The goal of the Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention is to protect and maintain the health, independence, and safety of elders. Through the coordinated efforts of its member agencies, the Consortium provides a comprehensive range of services to vulnerable seniors aimed at preventing or responding to abuse or neglect.

Membership in the Consortium is defined as your agency's commitment to participating in and improving this network of services. In addition to accepting appropriate referrals, Consortium members may be asked to participate in the on-going development of the Consortium through support of and cooperation with our planning, advocacy and training efforts.

As part of the requirements for membership to the Consortium, the undersigned agency agrees to:

1. Accept appropriate referrals to provide services to abused elders, their families and caregivers.
2. Assign one staff member as representative to the Consortium who will attend annual meetings and keep appropriate staff at their agencies informed of Consortium activities. Representatives and other staff members are invited to participate on subcommittees.
3. Copy the Consortium's newsletter and other training and resource materials and distribute to appropriate staff within your agency.
4. Participate in or sponsor 4 hours a year of staff development in elder abuse and report on your activities to the Consortium. Agencies can meet this requirement through any of the following activities as long as they total 4 hours:
    - Sponsor a training for agency staff
    - Serve on the Multidisciplinary Team or send staff to observe meetings (each meeting is 2 hours)
    - Provide training on elder abuse-related issues to other agencies
    - Serve on Consortium committees
    - Attend the annual Consortium meeting
    - Provide volunteer support (e.g. translate materials, write articles for the newsletter, host meetings)
    - Host a community awareness event for seniors

The Consortium agrees to:

1. Provide training, materials and consultation (The Consortium will provide in-service training once a year for member agencies)
2. Sponsor an annual meeting of the full membership, highlighting topics of special interest to members
3. Distribute promotional materials for the Consortium and invite new members to join
4. Advocate for public and private sector policies, services, facilities and financing which provide appropriate detection, treatment and prevention of elder abuse
5. Convene a multidisciplinary team (MDT) to review challenging abuse cases presented by Consortium members
6. Educate seniors and the general public about elder abuse and available protective services
7. Stimulate and support research into the causes, treatment, cure and prevention of elder abuse

These agreements are sent to agencies who want to join as a member agency of the San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention. The agreement is signed and dated by the agency's director and a representative is assigned from the staff of that agency.

APPENDIX D

TALKING POINTS FOR COLLABORATING TO PREVENT ELDER ABUSE

When working to build a collaborative Task Force, its important to talk about the reasons we need to work together, the laws and regulations we each operate under and also address the most frequently asked questions:

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

OLDER ADULTS PROTECTIVE SERVICES ACT (OAPSA)
35 P.S. § 10225.102. Legislative policy.

It is declared the policy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that older adults who lack the capacity to protect themselves and are at imminent risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment shall have access to and be provided with services necessary to protect their health, safety and welfare. It is not the purpose of this act to place restrictions upon the personal liberty of incapacitated older adults, but this act should be liberally construed to assure the availability of protective services to all older adults in need of them. Such services shall safeguard the rights of incapacitated older adults while protecting them from abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment. It is the intent of the general assembly to provide for the detection and reduction, correction or elimination of abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment, and to establish a program of protective services for older adults in need of them.

REGULATIONS – THE PA CODE, TITLE 6, CHAPTER 15 - AGING

§15.12 (b) Protective services plan. The area agency on aging shall submit, on an annual basis, its protective services plan to the Department. The protective services plan shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

(5) Documentation of applicable ***interagency relations, interagency agreements, service referral mechanisms and the locus of responsibility for cases with multi-service needs.*** The documentation shall include assurances that the area agency on aging has taken steps to avoid unnecessary duplication of existing efforts by other agencies which may carry responsibilities for some protective services activities.

§15.12 (c) ***Public awareness***. The area agency on aging shall conduct within its planning and service area an ongoing campaign designed to inform and educate older adults, professionals and the general public about the need for and availability of protective services under this chapter.

§ 15.46. Law enforcement agencies as available resources.

(a) *General.* This chapter may not be interpreted to deny an older adult who needs protective services access to the normal protections available from the police and other law enforcement agencies as appropriate.

(b) *Interagency coordination.* To facilitate the cooperation of law enforcement officials with the provision of protective services when necessary, the agency shall fulfill the following minimum coordinating activities:

(1) ***Achieve specific coordination objectives with:***

(i) Police departments in the planning and service area

(ii)The district attorney's office

(iii) State Police field installations for the planning and service area.

(iv) Officials of the court system.

(v) Legal assistance agencies

(2) Establish designated points of contact with law enforcement agencies to facilitate access when necessary.

(3) Establish basic procedures to be followed when the agency makes reports of criminal conduct or requests for special assistance to law enforcement agencies and when the law enforcement agencies report the need for protective services to the agency.

(4) Provide for the necessary exchange of information about protective services for older adults and the role of law enforcement in the provision of those services.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In 2003, the American Bar Association published the document, *"Can Bank Tellers Tell? Reporting Financial Abuse of the Elderly"* which outlines state laws associated with elder abuse. Another paper, *"Legal Issues Related to Bank Reporting of Suspected Elder Financial Abuse"* provides an overview of the legal issues that institutions may consider when reporting suspected cases of financial exploitation of the elderly.

(Download these presentations at: www.ncea.aoa.gov > Resources > Publications > Select Topic: Financial Exploitation/Abuse)

Specific areas of concern usually involve:

PRIVACY / LIABILITY:

Financial institutions may be reluctant to report suspicious activity to APS due to concerns with federal and state privacy laws. According to the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Aging, The Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 applies only to federal agencies requesting consumer information from financial institutions. Further, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act applies to federal, state and local agencies, but it contains several exemptions that permit disclosure, including "to protect against or prevent actual or potential fraud, unauthorized transaction, claims, or other liability"

In addition, 49 states and the District of Columbia include immunity provisions in their APS laws that protect individuals who make reports in good faith. These immunity provisions may be interpreted as overriding the restrictions in applicable state privacy laws.

- *PA Law: Any person participating in the making of a report or who provides testimony in any administrative or judicial proceeding arising out of a report shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability on account of the report or testimony unless the person acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose. 35 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 10225.302(d).*

TRAINING

The Financial Services Roundtable, through its project group BITS, published a model training program toolkit in 2006 *"Protecting the Elderly and Vulnerable from Financial Fraud and Exploitation."* The toolkit was updated in 2010. In 2012 and 2013, the group added several other publications to assist financial institutions in developing their own detection and training program, as well as public awareness information for their customers.

- BITS/Roundtable At-Risk Adult Training Curriculum
- BITS/Roundtable Resource Booklet of Programs and Tips to Prevent Financial Abuse of the Elderly
- Protecting and Rebuilding Seniors Assets through Financial Education: Agenda and Resource List
- BITS Protection Guide: Protecting the Elderly and Vulnerable from Financial Fraud and Exploitation
- Protecting the Elderly and Vulnerable from Financial Fraud and Exploitation Presentation

All of these documents can be downloaded at: www.bits.org > Publications > Fraud Reduction > Financial Abuse of the Elderly and Vulnerable

FINANCIAL FRAUD SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING:

FINCEN: *Advisory to Financial Institutions on Filing Suspicious Activity Reports Regarding Elder Financial Exploitation* (Feb 22, 2011, FIN-2011-A003)
http://www.fincen.gov/news_room/advisory/

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Traditionally law enforcement officials have been excellent partners with adult protective services in the area of physical crimes such a assault, robbery or homicide. The challenges usually arise in the area of neglect and financial exploitation (theft). Education of the applicable laws is an effective method to enhance collaboration with these difficult cases.

NEGLECT

Title 18 Pa.C.S.A. Crimes and Offenses (Refs & Annos)
Part II. Definition of Specific Offenses
Article B. Offenses Involving Danger to the Person (Refs & Annos)
Chapter 27. Assault (Refs & Annos)

§ 2713. Neglect of care-dependent person
(a) Offense defined.--A caretaker is guilty of neglect of a care-dependent person if he:

(1) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or serious bodily injury by failing to provide treatment, care, goods or services necessary to preserve the health, safety or welfare of a care-dependent person for whom he is responsible to provide care.

(2) Intentionally or knowingly uses a physical restraint or chemical restraint or medication on a care-dependent person, or isolates a care-dependent person contrary to law or regulation, such that bodily injury or serious bodily injury results.

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION IS THEFT

Financial Exploitation defined:

- An act or course of conduct by a person, other than the older adult (a caretaker of other person) against the older adult or the older adult's assets;
- Without the informed consent of the older adult or with consent obtained through misrepresentation, coercion or threats of force;
- Which results in monetary, personal, or other benefit, gain or profit for the perpetrator; or monetary or personal loss to the older adult.

Law Enforcement must prove the same elements to charge Theft:

- That the defendant took or exercised control over the property
- That the property was the property of another (the elder)
- That the taking or exercise of control was unlawful (e.g., defendant had no authority to do so)
- That the taking or exercise of control was with the intent to deprive the person of the property (not a loan)

Many crimes under Title 18, Chapter 39, can be used in Financial Exploitation cases such as Identity Theft, Forgery and Access Device Fraud. The most commonly applied violations are:

- Theft by Deception (Section 3922)
- Theft by Failure to Make Required Disposition of Funds Receive (Section 3927)
- Theft by Unlawful Taking (Section 3921)

These statutes are often applied to theft by a Power of Attorney.

APPENDIX E

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

This guide has been developed to assist Elder Abuse Task Force Teams in Pennsylvania In establishing a case review protocol that considers the key elements of most elder abuse financial exploitation cases. It is intended as a discussion outline to help facilitate team preparation and discussion but caution is urged to insure all existing protocols are followed to protect client confidentiality.

With gratitude we acknowledge and thank the authors of the Santa Clara County CA "Financial Abuse Specialist Team Practice Guide" for the use of their *FAST Meeting Presentation Format* as a guide for the development of this document.

1. **Basic Information**

    a. Name of Consumer

    b. Name of Alleged Perpetrator (AP)

        i. Relationship between Consumer and AP

    c. Law Enforcement involvement to date (if any)

    d. Time period in question

2. **Has the PSW conducted a capacity assessment?**
    a. If Yes, Results:

3. **Has a Capacity determination been made by a physician in regard to Executive Function?**
    a. If Yes, Name of Physician, date of assessment and results

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

4. **Medical History**
   Does the Consumer have any medical issues? If yes, diagnosis and dates:

5. **Summary of Report of Need / Suspected Abuse:**

6. **Results of Face to Face visits or communications with Consumer:**

7. **Living Situation:**
   Conditions of the residence? Others in the household? Adequate food, shelter, clothing? Able to perform activities of daily living?

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

8. **Caregiver, Family and Friends**
   Is there a caregiver? If Yes: name, relationship, contact Information

   Does the consumer have a spouse or partner? If yes, name and contact information

   Does the consumer have family, friends or others concerned for their well-being? If yes, names, relationships, contact information

9. **Community / Collateral Contacts**
   Does the Consumer engage in activities outside of the home? If yes, list organizations and any contact information. (religious institutions, senior center, civic organization, etc..)

10. **Bank / Investment Accounts**
    List Names of banks, types of accounts, title and approximate value
    Have the accounts been frozen or does AP still have access to accounts?

11. **How are the Consumer's finances managed?**
    Does consumer manage their own accounts or does someone assist?
    Is there an ATM card and if so who has access?

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

12. Consumer's Cash Flow

a. Income

(Social Security, Pension, Investments, Employment, etc..)

Source	Amount	Frequency

b. Expenses*

(Rent, Room and Board, Mortgage, Insurance, Utilities, Dependents, loans, etc..)

Source	Amount	Frequency

***Are any bills past due?**

13. Accountant or Tax Preparer

Does Consumer use an accountant or consistent tax preparer? If so have copies of tax returns been obtained?

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

14. Is there a Power of Attorney?

If yes, Date of POA and Agent(s) assigned:

Did Consumer have capacity when signed?

Are both acknowledgements attached (Principal and Agent)?

Is Gifting allowed? If yes – specifics:

Is Payment for Services allowed? If yes – specifics:

15. Is there a Guardian?

If yes, name and date appointed:

Have appropriate reports been filed with Orphans Court? Have they been reviewed by PSW?

16. Is there a private Attorney involved?

If yes, name and contact information

17. Is there a Will?

If yes who are the beneficiaries?

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION CASE DISCUSSION FORMAT

18. Does the Consumer own their home or other real estate?
Are property taxes up to date?
Has there been any transfer of property during the time period in question?

19. Court Records
Are there any court actions or bankruptcy filings involving the Consumer or the AP?

20. Has the AAA and/or Solicitor taken any legal action to date?

21. What are the recommended next steps to reduce the imminent risk to the consumer or their property?

a. **Is Civil Action indicated?**
b. **Is Criminal Action indicated?**

APPENDIX F

If you know of an elderly person who is being harmed in any way, through self-neglect or from the actions of other people, CALL US.

We can help.

Stop abuse in your community, call

1-800-252-1512

Area Agency on Aging for
Luzerne/Wyoming Counties

Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne and Wyoming Counties

111 North Pennsylvania Boulevard
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
570-822-1158 | toll free: 800-252-1512
www.AgingLW.org

Open your eyes to the issues
ELDER ABUSE

AREA AGENCY on AGING:
LUZERNE & WYOMING COUNTIES

Do's & Don'ts:

DO:

- Visit them regularly
- Keep track of medicines and doctor's visits
- Help them financially when possible
- Respect their feelings

DON'T:

- Treat them like children
- Strike, hit or push them
- "Borrow" the money they need to live
- Speak to them harshly

Elder Pennsylvanians deserve honor and respect... not abuse.

Old age is a time to treasure. But for some elder Pennsylvanians, it is a time for tears. No one talks much about elder abuse. It is a shameful secret, kept hidden behind drawn curtains and shuttered windows. But like other forms of abuse, elder abuse happens in all communities, among all races and nationalities.

WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?

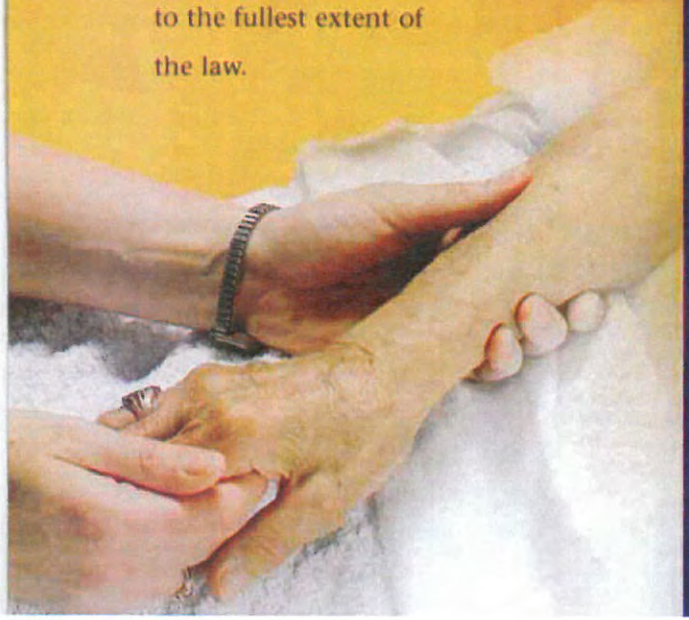
- Elder abuse is when someone takes the money an elderly person needs to live.
- Elder abuse is when someone pushes or hits an elderly person who is too frail to defend herself.
- Elder abuse is when no one watches out for an elderly person who is no longer able to care for himself.
- Elder abuse is violence, theft, neglect.

Elder abuse will happen again and again in our communities until caring people do something to make it stop. If you know someone who is being abused, neglected or exploited, call your local Area Agency on Aging.

Schuylkill Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance

What is SEAPA?

The Schuylkill Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance (previously the Schuylkill County Elder Abuse Task Force) is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporate entity comprised of a group of people with an interest in protecting the seniors of Schuylkill County from crimes of elder abuse. The Alliance is active in promoting awareness of elder abuse, teaching the public and elder services providers about elder abuse and ensuring that crimes against the elderly are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.



Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services

If you know or suspect that an elderly person is being harmed, call us. We can help!

Call toll free
1-800-832-3313

570-622-3103
570-874-4040

Embracing and Empowering Seniors

We are all partners against the crimes of elder abuse, mistreatment and neglect.

Schuylkill Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance Inc.

www.schuylkillelderabuse.com

Elder Abuse is:

Physical Abuse
Pushing, hitting, rough handling, restricting movement, unwanted sexual advances, bruising.

Emotional Abuse
Intimidation, humiliation, threats, insults, harassment, isolation, rejection, bullying, belittling.

Self-Neglect
Behaviors that threaten an elder's health or safety.

Neglect
Refusal or failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, healthcare or protection for a vulnerable elder; abandonment.

Financial or Material Exploitation
Illegally taking, misusing or concealing funds, property or assets of an elder. Intentionally misleading or preying upon an older person.

It Happens Here... It Happens Every Day...

It may be signaled by:

Witnessing intimidation such as screaming, bullying, threatening.

Unexplained injuries
Bruises, pain from touching, burns, scratches.

Changes in usual behaviors and patterns
Reluctance to talk, isolation, hesitation, fear, anxiety, unexplained refusal of medical treatment.

Discrepancies between known assets & life-style
Altered wills and trusts, unusual withdrawals, gifts given, checks expected and not received.

Schuylkill
Elder Abuse
Prevention
Alliance

It's Not OK... It Hurts Us All

If it looks and feels wrong... it probably is. Take Action!

REPORT YOUR SUSPICIONS of mistreatment of elders who live in the community or in a residential setting to the Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services at **1-800-832-3313**.

Your **CONFIDENTIAL** report will be assessed immediately and professionals will determine a course of action.

You may very well save someone's future because you cared enough to reach out to help!

APPENDIX G

HUNTINGDON COUNTY

ELDER JUSTICE SEMINAR PROGRAM – MAY 10, 2013

9:30am – 12:30pm

Opening and Welcome	Nancy Benson, President Bricktown Seniors Citizens
Pledge to the Flag	Bob Wargo, President, Citizens Advisory Council
Introductions and Comments	George Zanic, Esq. District Attorney Alan Smith, Area Agency on Aging Director
Principles and Practices of Elder Justice	Ronald Costen, Ph.D., Esq. PA Department of Aging Institute on Protective Services at Temple University
Pennsylvania's Commitment to Insuring That Older Persons are not Abused, Neglected, Exploited or Abandoned	Denise Getgen, RN Pennsylvania Department of Aging
Responding to the Special Needs of Older Persons Through Power of Attorney and Guardianship	Mike Kipphan, Esq.
Understanding Capacity and the Affects Alzheimer's and Other Dementia	Joseph Silverman, MD
Affordable Health Care Act and Implications for Care	Cliff Beaver Carriage House Insurance
Overview of Pennsylvania's Budget Process and What it Means for Older Persons	Senator John Eichelberger Representative Mike Fleck
Responding to Crimes Against the Elderly and Conducting Investigations	George Zanic, Esq. District Attorney Paul Sharum, Huntingdon County Coroner William Walters, Huntingdon County Sheriff
Management of County Government and the Work to Insure a Quality of Life for All Citizens	Commissioners of Huntingdon, Bedford and Fulton Counties
Closing Remarks	George Zanic, Esq, District Attorney Alan Smith, Area Agency on Aging Director

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THE DAILY NEWS

50¢ VOL. 93 NO. 69 EST. 1922 SA

Combating elder abuse

AAA, DA hold annual seminar to inform, protect seniors

By RON MORGAN
Daily News Staff Writer

"The best way to stop elder abuse is not let it start." That was the way Huntingdon County District Attorney George Zanic described the efforts of his office and the tri-county Area Agency on Aging in combating the growing problem during the annual Elder Justice Seminar Friday morning at the Bricktown Senior Center in Mount Union.

The informative session was attended by a number of county and state agency representatives and legislators who briefly talked about ways to protect the elderly from several forms of elder abuse.

Focusing on the theme, "Honoring the Inherent Dignity of Older Persons," the three-hour seminar was convened by the Huntingdon, Bedford and Fulton Area Agency on Aging

See Abuse
Page A3

Photo by RON MORGAN

Dr. Ron Costen, Esq., director of the Institute on Protective Service at Temple University, was one of several speakers appearing at the annual Elder Justice Seminar at the Bricktown Senior Citizens Center, Mount Union, Friday morning. A standing room only crowd of senior citizens from the tri-county region turned out for the informative event.

Hosp part

By GARRISON
Daily News Staf

Hospitals across have recently had procedures released eral government in promote price trans

The effort is Affordable Care Ac over 3,000 hospital country, including Memorial Hospital range of other reg ties.

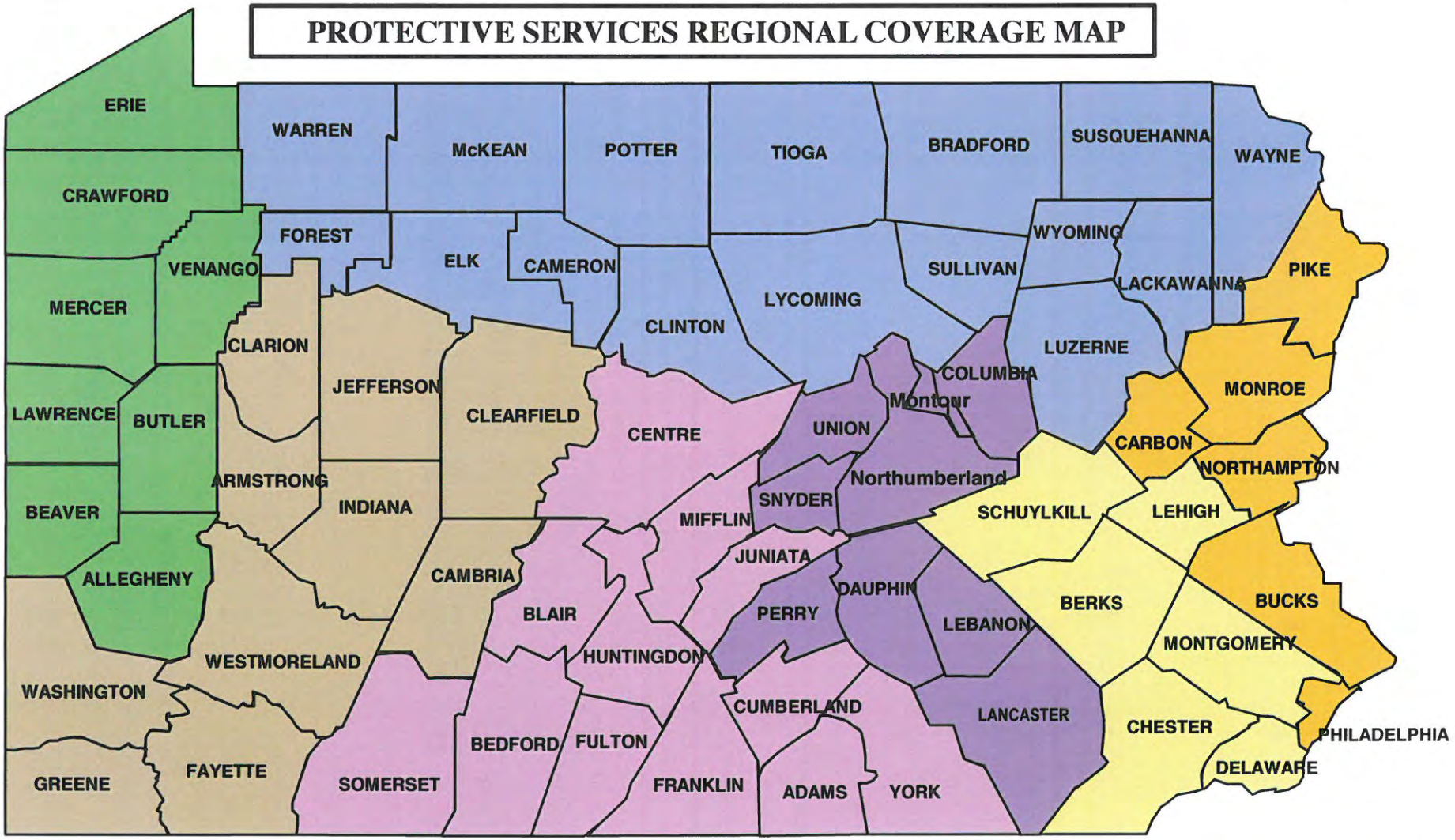
The centerpiece ernment's action is compiled and rele federal Centers fo and Medicaid Servi set lists the 100 m procedures and th costs of each proce pital.

The outstanding bare by the number variation in pricing hospital and anothe

For example, a the data set, the pri

APPENDIX H

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REGIONAL COVERAGE MAP



Region 1
Karen Sheriff
(717) 346-0440
ksheriff@pa.gov

Region 2
Charlotte Rehm
(717) 772-2935
c-crehm@pa.gov

Region 3
Diane Jones
(717) 772-0206
dianjones@pa.gov

Region 4
Annie Petrachonis
(717) 705-2976
c-apetrach@pa.gov

Region 5
Deb Carroll
(717) 705-4206
dcarroll@pa.gov

Region 6
Erin Walters
(717) 783-9821
c-ewalters@pa.gov

Region 7
Steve Rodgers
(717) 346-1386
c-srodgers@pa.gov

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