Elder Justice



Rural and Tribal Elder Justice Webinar Series

Resources for Financial Institutions To Prevent and Protect Against Elder Financial Exploitation

DECEMBER 20, 2018







#### **ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

The **mission** is to support and coordinate the Department of Justice's enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target older adults.

#### The Initiative does so by—

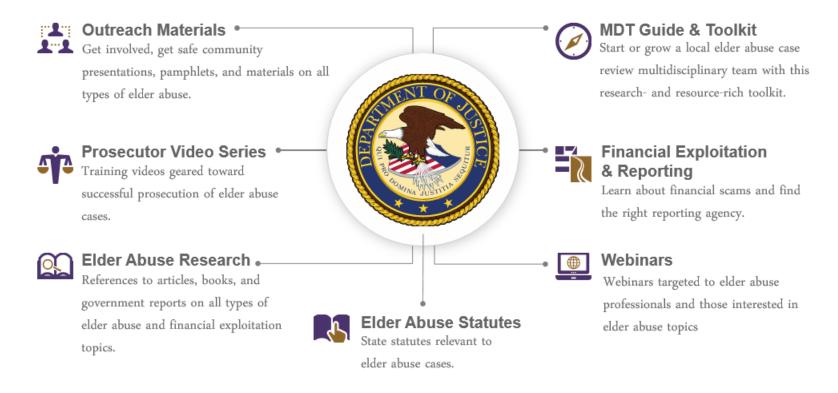
- Promoting justice for older adults.
- Helping older victims and their families.
- Enhancing state and local efforts through training and resources.
- Supporting research to improve elder abuse policy and practice.



#### **ELDERJUSTICE.GOV**

#### You're fighting elder abuse on the front lines. We've got your back.

The mission of the Elder Justice Initiative is to support and coordinate the Department's enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target our



#### **PRESENTERS**

- Lisa Bleier, J.D., Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)
- Billie McNeeley, Financial Exploitation Specialist, Aging & People with Disabilities, Oregon Department of Human Services



Invested in America

#### **ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

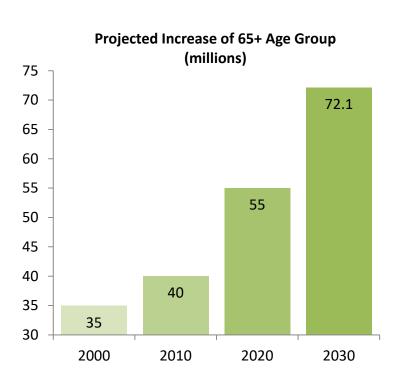
DEVELOPMENTS IN UNDERSTANDING AND COMBATING SENIOR FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

DECEMBER 2018

#### The Importance of Protecting a Growing Senior Population

10,000...

10,000 Americans will turn 65 every day through 2030.



- Currently, Americans over the age of 50 account for 77% of all financial assets in the United States (and more than half of them utilize financial advisors)
- By 2030...
  - Seniors aged 65+ will account for 18% of the nation's population

Life expectancies are on the rise and cases of reported elder abuse are increasing. This is not a problem that is going away.



#### The Reason for Concern



#### **Familiar Faces**

Unfortunately, more than half of all senior financial exploitation is perpetrated by **friends**, **family members**, **or caregivers**. This exploitation can be wide-ranging, is often the most difficult to prevent, and is the most under-reported form of senior financial exploitation. A victim of such exploitation may even seek to cover up such abuse out of feelings of guilt, shame, or loyalty.

 A MetLife study found that seniors lose at least \$2.9 billion each year to financial exploitation in mediareported cases\*



 The National Adult Protective Services Association estimates that only 1 in 44 cases of financial abuse are ever reported to the authorities



It is estimated that

1 in 5 Americans aged
65 or older have been
victimized by financial
fraud



## Financial Exploitation Is...

- Third-party fraud
- Family member exploitation
- Red flags of exploitation
- Red flags of cognitive impairment



# **Scams: Third-Party Fraud**













## **Family Member Exploitation**

- Purchases on older person's credit
- Inheritance impatience



## Red Flags Are...

- Social is being isolated, accompanied by an unfamiliar "caregiver"
- Physical dependent on another for care, repeatedly calls seeking same information
- Behavioral withdrawn, depressed



### Red Flags Are...

- Abrupt changes unexplained withdrawals or wire transfers
- Changes to the will beneficiary
- Purchases that are inconsistent with previous lifestyle





## **New Tools in the Toolbox To Combat Exploitation**



### New Tools in the Toolbox To Combat Exploitation

- New FINRA Rules
  - 4512 Amendment
  - New Rule 2165





# FINCA Financial Industry Regulatory Authority

#### New Amendments to Rule 4512

- Requires firms to attempt to collect trusted contacts for new and existing clients.
- Requires firms to attempt to regularly update that information.
- Includes an exemption for institutional accounts.
- Effective February 5, 2018.

#### Full text of the rule:

http://finra.complinet.com/en/display/display main.html?rbid=2403&record id=17537



### TRUSTED CONTACT

#### **Trusted Contact Authorization Form**

- To be used in certain circumstances:
  - If customer cannot be reached
  - If firm has concerns about health status or well-being of customer
  - If firm believes customer may be a victim of fraud/exploitation
- Allows firms to share information





# FINCA Financial Industry Regulatory Authority

#### New Rule 2165

- Provides a safe harbor from FINRA Rules 2010, 2150, and 11870, allowing firms to temporarily hold suspicious disbursements for up to 25 days (or longer if ordered by a court or state agency of competent jurisdiction).
- Focuses on disbursements.
- Includes recordkeeping and compliance requirements.
- Effective February 5, 2018.



## **State Report & Hold Laws**

#### Laws:

**Alabama** – Act No. 2016-141

Alaska – Chapter 65 SLA 2018

**Arkansas** – Act No. 668 (2017)

Colorado – Chapter 289, Session Laws of 2017

**Delaware** – Title 31 Chapter 39 Delaware Code (2015)

Indiana – Act. No. 221 (2016)

**Kentucky** – Acts 2018, Ch. 127

**Louisiana** – Act No. 580 (2016)

Maryland - Ch. 838, 2017

Minnesota – Ch. 161, Laws of 2018

Mississippi – Sec. 75-71-413 MS Code of 1972 (2017)

Missouri – RSMo 409.600-409.630 (2015)

Montana – Chapter 84 (2017)

New Mexico – Chapter 106 of 2017

North Dakota – New Section in Ch. 10-04-08.5, Code of ND (2017)

Oregon – Chapter 514, 2017 Laws

**Tennessee** – Pub. Ch. 424 (2017)

Texas – Art. 581-45 Vernon's TX Civil Statutes (2017)

Utah – Sec. 61-1-201 – 206 Utah Code Annotated

Washington – Ch. 133, Laws of 2010

#### **Rules:**

**Vermont –** Regulation S-2016-01



#### More Tools in the Toolbox

- Senior Safe Act of 2017 new law
  - Provides broader protections for firms that report suspicions of elder financial exploitation to state and federal regulators and investigators



- If you have additional questions, please contact me at <a href="mailto:lbleier@sifma.org">lbleier@sifma.org</a>
- Visit our Senior Investor webpage and download our Toolkit at:
  - https://www.sifma.org/resources/general/seniorinvestor-protection-toolkit/
  - https://www.sifma.org/explore-issues/seniorinvestors/

Lisa J. Bleier SIFMA Managing Director and Assoc. General Counsel



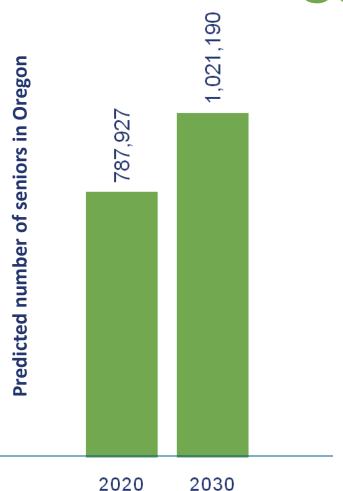
# Detecting and Preventing Financial Exploitation

# A Closer Look for Rural America





# Projected Growth of Oregon Seniors

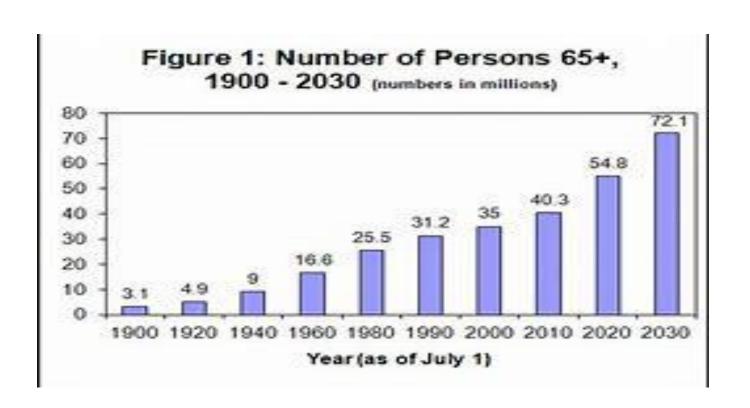


Projected growth of Oregon's senior population from 2012 to 2030 is 175%

Source: The Oregon Office of Economic Analysis



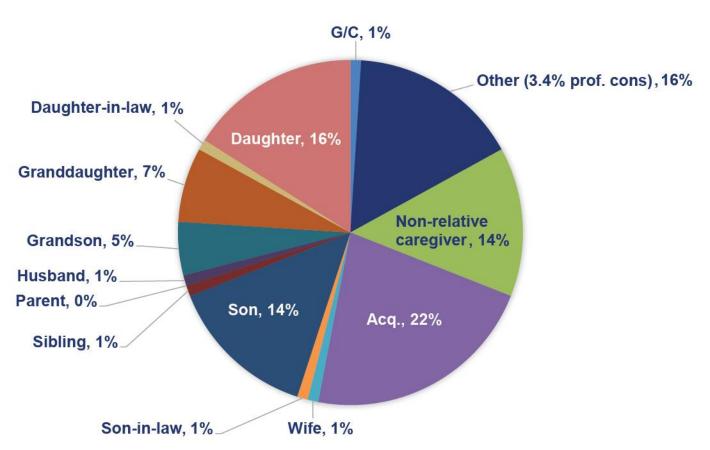
# **Nationally**





# A closer look at perpetrators

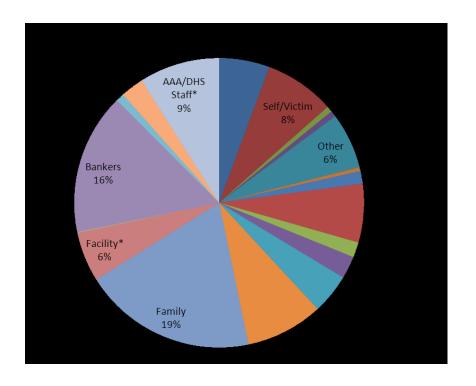
#### FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION





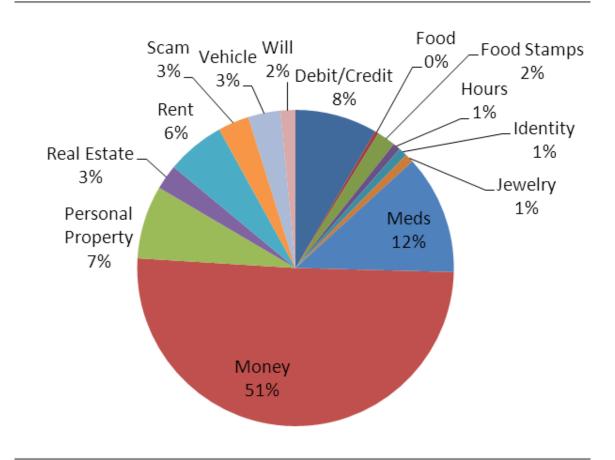
# Who Reports?

- Anonymous 3%
- Attorney 1%
- Friend/Neighbor 9%
- Health Care 4%
- Home Health 3%
- Hospital 2%
- LEA 7%
- Mental Health 1%
- Physician 1%
- Public Official 1%
- Social Services 6%





# What is Taken?

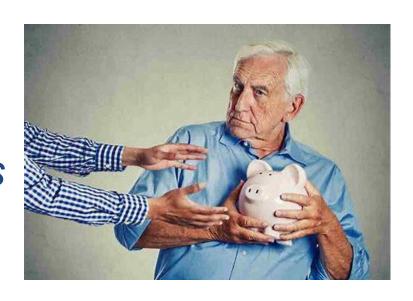




# Why Does This Matter?

Retirement Savings Lost:

Average US Victim Loses \$120,000



Average Retirement Savings at 50 \$108,000



# Financial Institutions Lose Too!





# Let's Talk Rural Problems

- Resources! Resources!
- Accessibility of resources
- Inadequacies of existing health care treatment
- Inadequacies of support systems for caregivers
- Minorities/ESL



# Reporting Issues in Rural Areas

- May be acquainted/known to law enforcement, healthcare professionals and other reporters
- May think they will not be taken seriously
- Confidentiality might not be maintained
- Reputations will be damaged
- They don't want to make it worse





# Tribal Specific Issue

Judicial authority for crimes of abuse by non-tribal people on tribal lands has been historically limited.





# Let's See the Numbers

- 34%- dealt with in another way or considered it a personal matter
- 18%-Not important enough to report
- 16%-Police couldn't/wouldn't help
- 13%-Fear of reprisal or getting the victim in trouble
- 18%-"Other"

(Non-reporting to police in rural areas per Bureau of Justice Statistics)



# What Can We Do?

- Training for financial institutions
- Changes in legislation (Oregon update)

Partnering and communication





# BankSafe

- Arm the frontlines
- Raise awareness
- Tap consumer research
- Spread industry promising practices





# BankSafe Focus

- Preventing financial exploitation
- Empowering financial caregivers
- Helping those with dementia
- Making banking tools and learning environments easier to access (real life scenarios, easy to navigate, short trainings, gamification)



# 11 States to Pilot BankSafe

- Oregon
- California
- Utah
- Arizona
- Colorado
- Minnesota
- Ohio
- Tennessee
- Georgia
- Florida
- Vermont





# Other Resources

- Oregon Bankers Association Toolkit <u>https://www.oregonbankers.com/preventing-elder-financial-exploitation-toolkit.html</u>
- American Bankers Association (ABA) Safe Banking for Seniors <a href="https://www.aba.com/Engagement/Pages/safe-banking-for-seniors.aspx">https://www.aba.com/Engagement/Pages/safe-banking-for-seniors.aspx</a>
- Protecting Seniors: A Resource Guide for Partnering with Law Enforcement and Adult Protective Services
- https://www.aba.com/Engagement/Documents/Protecting-Seniors-Partnership-Guide.pdf
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Resource's Guide for Elder Financial Exploitation Prevention & Response Networks
- https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/082016\_cfpb\_Network\_ Resource\_Guide.pdf



# Contact:

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#### Questions

#### **Elder Justice Initiative**

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