

Elder Abuse Unit Info for DA Website

The Monterey County District Attorney's Office Elder Abuse Unit prosecutes felony cases involving physical, financial, and emotional abuse of elder adults and dependent adults. An elder is someone 65 years of age or older. A dependent adult is someone between 18 and 64 years old who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his or her abilities to carry out normal activities or protect their rights.

It is illegal for any person—including a spouse, child, family member, or caregiver—to physically or emotionally abuse, neglect, or steal from an elder or dependent adult.

It is often difficult for victims of these crimes to seek legal help, especially when the perpetrator is someone close to them. It is important for loved ones to reassure victims that the abuse is not their fault and that they have the right to be treated with dignity and respect by everyone in their lives.

The Monterey County District Attorney's Office is committed to ensuring that victims of elder or dependent adult abuse are protected from further harm, and that the perpetrators of those offenses are held accountable for their actions.

If you believe that you or someone you know may be the victim of elder or dependent adult abuse, please see the [resources](#) page for assistance.

How to Report Suspected Elder or Adult Abuse

For all emergencies, call **911**.

If you suspect that you or someone you know may be a victim of non-emergency elder or dependent adult abuse in Monterey County, you may report the conduct to the following agencies:

Monterey County Department of Social Services, Aging and Adult Services (commonly referred to as "Adult Protective Services").

- You can report suspected elder abuse or exploitation by calling 1-800-510-2020 or 831-755-4466. A social worker will review and investigate your report.
- Website: <http://mcdss.co.monterey.ca.us/aging/>
- You can elect to remain anonymous.

Your Local Police Agency

- You may also report suspected elder or dependent adult abuse by calling the police department for the city where the crime occurred. For unincorporated areas of the county, please contact the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

For Suspected Abuse or Neglect in Care Facilities

For suspected abuse or neglect occurring in a skilled nursing facility, a residential care facility, a community care facility, or an intermediate care facility, contact the Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

- Phone: 831-655-1334 or 831-758-4011
- Website: <https://allianceonaging.org/programs/ombudsman/>

Resources for Victims of Elder Abuse

AARP Fraud Watch Network: A website and hotline with information on scams.

- Hotline Phone Number: 877-908-3360
- Website: <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/>

Better Business Bureau: For consumer complaints.

- Phone: 408-278-7400 (San Jose)
- Website: <http://www.bbb.org/us/ca/monterey>

Legal Services for Seniors: A non-profit law firm for seniors age 60 or older.

- Phone: 831-899-0492 (Seaside) or (831) 442-7700 (Salinas)
- Website: <https://www.lssmc.net/>

National Center on Elder Abuse: Website with resources and valuable information about elder abuse.

- Website: <https://ncea.acl.gov/>

United States Department of Justice Elder Justice Initiative: Website with resources and valuable information about elder abuse.

- Website: <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice>