

**Cibola County:**

**700 E. Roosevelt # 30**

**Grants, New Mexico 87020**

**(505) 285-4627**

**Sandoval County:**

**711 Camino del Pueblo Sur**

**Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004**

**(505)771-7400**

**Valencia County:**

**101 S. Main Street #201**

**Belen, New Mexico 87002**

**(505) 861-0311**

New Mexico State Police (505)287-9476

Cibola County

Cibola County Sheriff's Dept (505) 287-9476

Grants Police Dept (505) 287-2983

Milan Police Dept (505) 287-4491

Sandoval County

Cuba Police Dept (505) 289-9157

Sandoval County Sheriff's Dept (505) 867-7526

Bernalillo Police Dept (505) 867-3311

Rio Rancho Police Dept (505) 891-7226

Corrales Police Dept (505) 897-1277

Jemez Springs Police Dept (575) 829-3345

Valencia County

Valencia County Sheriff's Dept (505) 866-2400

Belen Police Dept (505) 865-7501

Los Lunas Police Dept (505) 839-3855

Bosque Farms Police Dept (505) 869-2358

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**Elder Abuse**



**Lemuel L. Martinez**  
13th Judicial District Attorney  
Serving: Cibola, Sandoval and  
Valencia Counties



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## What is Elder Abuse?

Elder abuse is the intentional or negligent causing of physical or emotional pain, bodily injury or general harm or preventing an elder from essential services, or the use of an elders finances or property to the benefit of another. There are many different types of elderly abuse including: physical, emotional or psychological harm and financial exploitation. The abuse can happen in the home or in settings such as a hospital or nursing home.

## Types of Elderly Abuse:

**Physical Abuse** is infliction or threatening to inflict, physical pain or injury on a vulnerable elder or depriving them of a basic need or service.

### Signs of Physical Abuse include:

- ◆ Repeated unexplained injuries.
- ◆ Bruises or pressure marks.
- ◆ Certain types of burns or blisters
- ◆ Broken bones or abrasions

### Sexual Abuse:

Is the infliction of non-consensual sexual contact of any kind.

### Signs of Sexual Abuse include:

- ◆ Stained or bloody undergarments
- ◆ Bruised breasts or genital area
- ◆ Venereal diseases or infections

**Emotional or Psychological Abuse** is the infliction of mental or emotional anguish or distress on an elderly person through verbal or nonverbal acts. Emotional or psychological abuse includes: threats, harassment or humiliation.

### Signs of Emotional or Psychological Abuse include:

- ◆ Uncommunicative and unresponsive
- ◆ Unreasonably fearful or suspicious
- ◆ Lacks interest in social contacts.
- ◆ Chronic physical or psychiatric health problems
- ◆ Evasiveness

**Financial or Material Exploitation** is the illegal taking, misuse or concealment of funds, property, or assets of a vulnerable elder. Financial exploitation includes: fraud, taking money under false pretenses, forgery, forced property transfers, purchasing expensive items without permission, or denying the elderly person access to his or her own funds or home.

### Signs of Financial Exploitation include:

- ◆ Sudden changes in an elder's bank practices or balances
- ◆ Unauthorized withdrawal of funds
- ◆ Abrupt changes to an elder's will or financial documents

**Neglect** is the refusal or failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, health care, or protection for a vulnerable elder.

### Signs of Neglect include:

- ◆ Unsanitary or unclean living conditions.
- ◆ Poor Personal Hygiene
- ◆ Sunken eyes or weight loss
- ◆ Under or over medicated.

**Abandonment** is the desertion of a vulnerable elder by anyone who has assumed the responsibility for care or custody of that elder.

## Preventing Elder Abuse

- ◆ Report your suspicions to local adult services or local law enforcement agency
- ◆ Stay aware of elder abuse by taking note of your elderly neighbor's conditions. Be sure to pay particular attention to the elderly abuse warning signs.
- ◆ Volunteerism is a great way to ensure elders are well taken care of and are not lonely. There are many local programs geared toward working with the elderly.
- ◆ Look into local programs and support services (i.e. Meals on Wheels). The programs allow elders to defend against abuse by maintaining their independence, health and overall well-being.
- ◆ Report to Adult Protective Services Division 866-654-3219 or 505-476-4912

