

Elder Abuse Prevention

Empower Seniors. Change Communities.

Center for Elder Law & Justice is a non-profit civil legal services agency, serving 11 counties in Western New York. Through the provision of free legal services, it is our mission to help our clients live independently and with dignity.

To find out if you qualify for our services, contact our office at 716-853-3087.

Services Made Possible by:

Erie County Dept. of Senior Services
New York State Office for the Aging

IOLA

M&T Bank

NYS Office of Children & Family Services
NYS Department of Criminal Justice Services
Judiciary Civil Legal Services
Funds in New York

438 Main Street, Suite 1200
Buffalo, NY 14202
(Main Street & Court Street)

(716) 853 - 3087

Toll Free | 1 (844) 296. 6404

English | 711 or 1 (800) 421. 1220

Spanish | (877) 662. 4234

elderjusticenyny.org

TRANSLATION & NY RELAY AUXILIARY

SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE

*Information for
Advocates on Protecting
Our Seniors*



FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

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**CENTER FOR
ELDER
LAW &
JUSTICE**

What is Elder Abuse?

Physical

Use of force against an elderly person that results in physical pain, injury or impairment.

Financial

The unauthorized use of an elderly person's funds or property.

Sexual

Contact with an elderly person without the elder's consent. This involves physical action, showing pornographic material without consent, and/or forcing them to watch sexual acts.

Neglect

Failure to fulfill a caretaking obligation, which can be intentional or unintentional. This is based on factors such as ignorance or denial that the elderly person needs a higher level of care.

Emotional

The use of words or actions towards an elderly person that cause emotional pain or distress.



Preventing and stopping elder abuse takes the commitment of a community. If you suspect abuse, **take action!**

For legal assistance, call
Center for Elder Law & Justice
716 - 853 - 3087

For immediate, 24 hour assistance, call
Crisis Services Hotline
716 - 834 - 3131

If you suspect someone is being abused, call
**Erie County Protective Services
for Adults**
716 - 858 - 6877

For general information on services, call
**Erie County Department of Senior
Services**
716 - 858 - 8526

For shelter information, call
CEA Elder Shelter Network
716 - 941 - 4994

In an emergency, call 911



Signs of Abuse

At first, you may not recognize or take seriously some of the signs of elder abuse. In fact, some signs and symptoms of elder abuse overlap with symptoms associated with aging, but that does not mean that you should dismiss them.

Watch out for:

- Overbearing caregivers who do not let the elderly person answer questions
- Caregivers who do not allow you to speak to the elderly person alone
- Caregivers who try to explain away injuries and other symptoms
- Sudden changes in an elderly person's lifestyle