

# **Law Enforcement Guide**

## **Elderly and Adult Services**

◆ **NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services - For information on how to report elder abuse/neglect.**

**1-800-949-0470**

◆ **NH Department of Justice - Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau - Protects consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices in New Hampshire.**

**1-888-468-4454**

◆ **NH Legal Assistance/Senior Advice Line - Provides direct representation, brief services, advice, and referrals to seniors experiencing consumer-related problems.**

**1-888-353-9944**

◆ **ServiceLink - Provides free and confidential information, referrals and assistance to older adults, persons with disabilities, and their families.**

**1- 866-634-9412**

**Sponsored by the  
Elder Abuse Advisory Council  
NH Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Community Based Care Services  
129 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301**

# ***Stop Elder Abuse***

## **Keep It On Your Radar Screen**

**R - Recognize the Signs of Elder Abuse** - Does the elderly person show evidence of physical abuse, fear, anxiety, a misuse or lack of medications, food, liquids, heat or medical care?

**A - Ask Questions in Private** - Talk with the elderly person alone and in private. An elderly person may be ashamed or too fearful to disclose information in front of family or caregivers.

**D - Document Your Findings** - Write a report and take photographs of any injuries or living conditions that may indicate abuse or neglect.

**A - Assure Access to Safety** - If the elderly person is in danger where they live, take immediate action.\* If the concern is less urgent, provide referral information. (See back.)

**R- Review Your Findings and Return** - Follow-up with visits to make sure the situation hasn't worsened.

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\* *In an emergency/crisis, attempt to convince the person of the need to be seen at a hospital. Alert the first responder and hospital of the conditions and basis for concern.*

*Under limited circumstances, you may take someone into custody against their will. Refer to:*

**NH RSA 135-C:27 Involuntary Emergency Admission,**

*or*

**NH RSA 172-B:3 Protective Custody.**