

OCAPS 37th Annual Conference
Breaking the Silence: Collaboratively Responding to Elder Financial Exploitation
Thursday, August 11, 2022
9:00am – 4:30pm
Location: The Ohio State University Fawcett Center
2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Conference Schedule at a Glance
5 hours CEU/CLE

Time	Agenda Item	Agenda Information	Workshop Description
8:00am–9:00am	Registration & Continental Breakfast	Open networking and visit vendor tables	
9:00am–9:15am	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Deanne Green Washington County Department of Job and Family Services OCAPS Chairperson	
	The Judge Thomas Swift Collaboration Award	Presented by OCAPS Chairperson & the nominator of the award	
9:15am–10:30am	Morning Plenary Session <i>All in It Together: APS and the Financial Industry Efforts to Combat Elder Financial Exploitation</i>	Joe Snyder NAPSA, Chair of the Public Policy, Founder of the Philadelphia Financial Exploitation Prevention Task Force	All in it together, through action, and by supporting effective programs to diminish elder financial exploitation through direct services, education, policy & advocacy and elder abuse research. In this session we will review pertinent Adult Protective Services and financial services laws and regulations relative to reporting elder financial exploitation and collaboration with the financial services industry. We will analyze what we have learned from past experiences, what has been successful, what has not been successful and consider approaches for a path forward. Together we can make a difference!

10:30am-10:45am	Morning Break		
10:45am–12:00pm	Concurrent Morning Workshops		
	Workshop One: <i>An Integrated Model to Fighting Elder Abuse</i>	Peter N. Kanios Office of Lucas County Prosecutor Julia R. Bates Christopher Jones Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services	This workshop will describe Lucas County’s multidisciplinary approach to the prevention of elder abuse and the protection of its older adults with particular emphasis on responding to financial exploitation case matters. The workshop will describe the key benefits of integrating the use of civil and criminal legal interventions. Presenters will describe their agency’s role in the fight against elder abuse and the contribution an I-Team (“Interdisciplinary Team”) can make to the effort.
	Workshop Two: <i>Identifying Power of Attorney Abuses</i>	Eli T. Sperry Young & Alexander	Financial powers of attorney are legal tools commonly used to plan for the possibility that an adult may need help with financial decision-making in the future, but they can be used to steal money and property. As attorneys how do you identify possible misuse. Powers of attorney are easily abused because they are generally not subject to oversight by the court system or another third party. This session will discuss common scenarios concerning the many forms of POA abuse and explore possible strategies to identify, prevent and intervene.

	<p>Workshop Three:</p> <p><i>The Continuing Impact of the Pandemic on Aging and Mental Health</i></p>	<p>Richard Meeker Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging</p>	<p>This presentation will provide information on the mental health concerns for those who are aging. During COVID and the aftermath, mental health concerns have continued to be on the rise for many. Some of those suffering from exacerbated symptoms of mental illness because of the pandemic, and subsequent alterations in lifestyle after the pandemic, are the aging themselves. Some have lost family and friends, and some prior to the pandemic were struggling with mental illness. This presentation will discuss the impact of untreated mental illness on the aging, families, and communities. This presentation will provide information on assisting, leveraging resources (formal and informal) and providing suggestions as appropriate for those who may be struggling.</p>
	<p>Workshop Four:</p> <p><i>Involuntary APS Court Interventions: Protecting Older Ohioans</i></p>	<p>Natasha Pietrocola Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services</p>	<p>This workshop will review various Probate Court interventions unique to APS to assist adults who resisting protective services interventions yet allegedly an incapacitated person. APS work towards alleviating the maltreatment to benefit the adults we serve. We will discuss the Ohio APS laws that provides County Departments of Human Services the ability of petitioning for Court Orders to provide protective services.</p>
12:00pm–12:45pm	Award Luncheon	Lunch/networking and visit vendor tables	

12:45pm-1:30pm	2022 APS Worker of the Year	Presented by Jeffery Van Dusen Deputy Director Office of Families and Children Ohio Department of Job and Family Services	
1:30pm–2:45pm	Concurrent Afternoon Workshops		
	Workshop Five: <i>Updates at Ohio Department of Job and Family Services</i>	Michael Stoffer Ohio Department of Job and Family Services	This workshop will provide pamphlets and a discussion regarding financial exploitation against elders in our community. Updates within ODJFS will include a new upgrade planned for the Ohio Database for Adult Protective Services (ODAPS), a refresher on the new professions added to the mandated reporter list and examples of how Counties are utilizing the ARPA funding.
	Workshop Six: <i>The Ombudsman Role in Long-term Care</i>	Robert L. Vines Pro Seniors, Inc.	The ombudsman advocates for clients in long term care settings. Federal and State laws support the ombudsman in their role as advocates. But the ombudsman has to be “invited” in by the client. They are not mandatory reporters, they are not “regulatory”. So what are the boundaries of ombudsman authority? How do they determine capacity and consent? And how does the ombudsman work with other agencies to resolve problems? This talk will provide answers to these and other questions.

	<p>Workshop Seven:</p> <p><i>Picking Fights: War Stories and Lessons Learned from the Front Line</i></p>	<p>Blaine P. Brockman Darby Legal Assistance</p>	<p>As Ohio's aged population grows, so too do the reported cases of elder financial exploitation. Elder law attorneys are uniquely positioned to stop the exploitation of the older adults and adults with disabilities. Many attorneys are not fully aware of the risks of exploitation, the indicators of exploitation, mandatory reporting requirements and other means of combating exploitation. This session will confront the hard calls and best strategies for making a difference to end exploitation.</p>
	<p>Workshop Eight:</p> <p><i>Protecting Older Ohioans from Securities Fraud</i></p>	<p>Janice Hitzeman Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Securities</p> <p>Leo Fernandez Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Securities</p>	<p>Older adults are especially vulnerable to financial fraud, and their families are often financially impacted if the person loses his or her entire savings. The Division of Securities will provide an overview of the elements of securities fraud, a felony level crime in Ohio, an overview of the resources available to help protect Ohioans from becoming a victim, as well as resources to help identify and prosecute securities fraud.</p>
2:45pm–3:00pm	Afternoon Break		
3:00pm–4:15pm	<p>Afternoon Plenary Session:</p> <p><i>Financial Exploitation, a Collaboration Between Law Enforcement and APS</i></p>	<p>Teri Ruslander Grove City Police Department</p> <p>Caroline Rankin Franklin County Office on Aging</p>	<p>Elder financial exploitation is on the rise in today's society. This workshop will examine techniques for investigating financial exploitation cases. It will show collaboration between Law Enforcement and APS staff and will help APS investigators put together cases to turn over to law enforcement. Participants will have a working knowledge of the criminal justice system.</p>
4:15pm–4:30pm	Closing Remarks		