

## Our Mission

To review, investigate, and prosecute crimes committed against older adults in Bucks County; to prevent crimes against older adults through professional training and community education; and to increase community awareness of available resources for services.

## Contact Information

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE  
YOU SHOULD REPORT IT  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
YOU ARE NOT ALONE  
WHEN SEEKING HELP.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 24 HOUR  
ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE

**1-800-490-8505**

## Member Organizations

Bucks County District  
Attorney's Office  
215-348-6344

Bucks County Area Agency on  
Aging (AAA)  
215-348-0510

Network of Victim Assistance  
(NOVA)  
215-343-6543  
1-800-675-6900

Bucks County Consumer  
Protection  
215-348-6060

Bucks County Register of Wills  
215-348-6265

Bucks County Coroner  
215-348-3852



## Bucks County Crimes Against Older Adults Task Force



*Fighting Abuse,  
Neglect, and  
Exploitation of Older  
Adults in Bucks  
County*

## **The Bucks County Crimes Against Older Adults Task Force**

*Bucks County District Attorney  
Diane E. Gibbons established  
this Task Force as a  
Multidisciplinary Group for the  
Purpose of Reviewing,  
Investigating, Prosecuting and  
Preventing Crimes Against  
Older Adults.*

*The task force meets  
monthly to review current  
criminal cases and discuss  
new investigations. The  
task force works with local  
law enforcement and other  
organizations who advocate  
for the protection and rights  
of the older adults of Bucks  
County.*

## **Recognizing Signs of Abuse**

You can help stop the abuse of older adults that may be occurring. In many cases, an abused or neglected older adult is totally dependent on the abuser. Learning common signs of abuse can help you spot abuse in your own family or community:

### ***Physical Abuse***

- ◆ unexplained injuries
- ◆ presence of bruises, burns, scratches or other injuries
- ◆ inappropriate use of physical restraints or medication
- ◆ lack of reaction to pain

### ***Emotional Abuse***

- ◆ victim is withdrawn, secretive, or hesitant to talk freely around caregiver
- ◆ victim is isolated, contact with others is restricted

### ***Neglect of Care***

- ◆ poor hygiene, dirty or torn clothing, unsanitary living conditions
- ◆ untreated medical conditions
- ◆ malnourished, dehydrated
- ◆ bedsores and skin lesions
- ◆ untreated medical conditions
- ◆ diversion of needed drugs

### ***Financial Exploitation***

- ◆ overcharging for services
- ◆ lost, stolen, or destroyed property
- ◆ mismanagement of personal funds (missing checks)
- ◆ overdrawn accounts
- ◆ changes in spending patterns
- ◆ unnecessary home improvements
- ◆ sudden changes in estate planning

### ***Sexual Abuse***

- ◆ sexually transmitted diseases
- ◆ trauma/injuries to genital area