

Elder Justice Now!

- One in ten older persons will likely be abused this year (over four million people).
- Elder abuse cases are increasing, as are cases of abuse against younger adults with disabilities. After victimization, older persons are far more likely to:
 - need additional medical services,
 - require assistance from publicly funded programs, and
 - go into nursing homes after victimization.
 - they are also far more likely to die.
- Adult Protective Services (APS), the front-line response systems in every state to help and protect older adults and younger adults with disabilities who are abused, neglected or financially exploited. APS saves victims' lives and assets.
- 87% of APS programs saw the number of abuse reports and their caseloads increase over the past five years.
- **48%** of APS programs have had their staffing reduced during the same time.
- APS receives no designated federal funding, in sharp contrast to child protective services and programs responding to other abuse victims.
- Over two-thirds of the states use some federal Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds to support APS.
- The Elder Justice Act (EJA), bipartisan legislation signed into law in March, 2010, authorizes \$125 million to support APS services and to test effective interventions. Zero funds have been appropriated for the Elder Justice Act.
- Elder abuse causes an enormous amount of suffering and death, and is very expensive for the victims, their financial institutions and the public. Early intervention by well-trained and adequately- supported APS professionals prevents suffering, death and monetary losses.
- Please support both the President's FY 2014 \$8M down-payment request for APS in the Elder Justice Act, and the Social Services Block Grant.



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