

**FOLLOW-UP PROTOCOL FOR ASSESSING ANIMAL WELFARE AND ELDER
ADULT ABUSE AND NEGLECT©**



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**Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D. and Terry Peak, Ph.D.
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The purpose of the **follow-up protocol** is to assist the Division of Aging and Adult Services and Adult Protection Services (APS) personnel in interviewing an elder adult client (or those referring elder adult clients) **to seek elaboration on concerns an elder adult raised about threats to and/or harm of pets or other animals.**

The following statement may be read to the elder adult (or referring agent) to create the context for the questions and to indicate their purpose:

“EARLIER, YOU SAID THAT YOU HAD CONCERNS ABOUT THREATS TO YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMALS AND/OR CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMALS BEING HARMED BY SOMEONE. I WOULD NOW LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CONCERNS. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THIS INFORMATION WILL HELP US TO DETERMINE IF OUR AGENCY CAN ASSIST YOU IN DEALING WITH THESE CONCERNS.”

**IF RESPONDENT SAID “YES” TO QUESTION ABOUT HARM
TO PETS OR OTHER ANIMALS (Protocol item #13)**

- 1. HOW WAS YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL HARMED?**
- 2. DID THIS HAPPEN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION?**
- 3. HOW LONG AGO DID THIS HAPPEN (or WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THIS HAPPENED)?**
- 4. WHO HARMED YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?**
- 5. WHY DO YOU THINK THIS PERSON HARMED YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?**

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6. WHO ELSE WAS PRESENT WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS HARMED?

7. HOW SEVERE WAS THE HARM TO YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

7a. ___ minor harm (e.g., missed feeding once)

7b. ___ minor injury (e.g., minor cut , sprain)

7c. ___ serious injury (e.g., broken limb, burns)

8a. WAS THE PET OR OTHER ANIMAL TAKEN TO A VETERINARIAN?

___ YES If answers "YES", TAKEN BY WHOM? _____

8b. DID THE VETERINARIAN SUSPECT THAT THE INJURIES WERE NOT THE RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT (e.g., hit by car, caught leg in a fence)? ___ YES ___ NO

8c. DID THE PET OR OTHER ANIMAL RECOVER FROM ITS INJURIES? ___ YES ___ NO

___ NO 8d. DID THE PET OR OTHER ANIMAL RECOVER FROM ITS INJURIES? ___ YES ___ NO

9. WAS THE HARM TO YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL REPORTED TO THE POLICE OR AN ANIMAL CONTROL AGENCY OR A HUMANE SOCIETY?

___ YES If answers "YES", WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE? _____

___ NO

9a. DID YOU TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THIS?

___ YES If answers "YES", WHOM DID YOU TELL AND WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE? _____

___ NO

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10. HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS HARMED?

11. DO YOU THINK YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS HARMED IN ORDER TO:

FRIGHTEN YOU?

INTIMIDATE YOU?

MAKE YOU CHANGE YOUR LIFESTYLE OR THE WAY YOU LIKE TO LIVE?

FORCE YOU TO GIVE MONEY, POSSESSIONS, OR OTHER PROPERTY TO THE PERSON HARMING THE PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

MAKE YOU CHANGE WHERE YOU LIVE OR YOUR LIVING ARRANGEMENTS?

CAUSE YOU EMOTIONAL DISTRESS ABOUT THE HARM TO OR LOSS OF YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

KEEP YOU FROM TALKING TO OTHERS ABOUT CONCERNS OR NEEDS THAT YOU HAVE?

12. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF HARM TO YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL HAPPENED AGAIN? _____

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13. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD OR SOMETHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO TELL US ABOUT WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS HARMED?

___ YES - "please go ahead and tell me" _____

___ NO

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PATIENCE IN ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS. OUR AGENCY WILL CONSIDER THE CONCERNS YOU RAISED AND SEE IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO YOU.

IF RESPONDENT SAID "YES" TO QUESTION ABOUT THREATS TO HARM PETS OR OTHER ANIMALS (Protocol item #14)

14a. HOW WAS YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL THREATENED?

14b. HOW STRONGLY DID YOU BELIEVE THAT THE THREAT MIGHT BE CARRIED OUT?

___ not strongly at all ___ somewhat strongly ___ very strongly

15. DID THIS HAPPEN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION?

16. HOW LONG AGO DID THIS HAPPEN (or WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THIS HAPPENED)?

17. WHO THREATENED TO HARM YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

18. WHY DO YOU THINK THIS PERSON THREATENED TO HARM YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

19. WHO ELSE WAS PRESENT WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS THREATENED?

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20. HOW SEVERE WAS THE THREAT OF HARM TO YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?

- 20a. ____ minor (e.g., threatened to skip feeding for one day)
- 20b. ____ threatened minor injury (e.g., minor cut , sprain)
- 20c. ____ threatened serious injury (e.g., broken limb, burns)

21. WAS THE THREAT TO HARM YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL REPORTED TO THE POLICE OR AN ANIMAL CONTROL AGENCY OR A HUMANE SOCIETY?

____ **YES** If answers "YES", WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE? _____

____ **NO**

21a. DID YOU TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THIS?

____ **YES** If answers "YES", WHOM DID YOU TELL AND WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE? _____

____ **NO**

22. HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS THREATENED?

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**23. DO YOU THINK YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL WAS THREATENED IN
ORDER TO:**

- FRIGHTEN YOU?**
- INTIMIDATE YOU?**
- MAKE YOU CHANGE YOUR LIFESTYLE OR THE WAY YOU LIKE TO
LIVE?**
- FORCE YOU TO GIVE MONEY, POSSESSIONS, OR OTHER
PROPERTY TO THE PERSON HARMING THE PET OR OTHER
ANIMAL?**
- MAKE YOU CHANGE WHERE YOU LIVE OR YOUR LIVING
ARRANGEMENTS?**
- CAUSE YOU EMOTIONAL DISTRESS ABOUT THE HARM TO OR LOSS
OF YOUR PET OR OTHER ANIMAL?**
- KEEP YOU FROM TALKING TO OTHERS ABOUT CONCERNS OR
NEEDS THAT YOU HAVE?**

**24. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF THREATS TO HARM YOUR PET OR OTHER
ANIMAL HAPPENED AGAIN?** _____

**25. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD OR SOMETHING
ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO TELL US ABOUT WHEN YOUR PET OR OTHER
ANIMAL WAS THREATENED?**

- YES - "please go ahead and tell me"** _____
- _____
- _____

NO

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PATIENCE IN ANSWERING THESE
QUESTIONS. OUR AGENCY WILL CONSIDER THE CONCERNS YOU RAISED
AND SEE IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO YOU.**