

## **NAPSA SCAM ADVICE FORUM January, 2024 Steve Baker and Debbie Deem**

The Role of the US Attorney's Elder Justice Coordinators and Review of a Federal Gift Card Prosecution, with Assistant US Attorney Monica Tait, Central District CA.

### **Federal Resources Related To This Topic**

**National Elder Fraud Hotline** 1-833-372-8311 <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope>

National federal hotline for adults 60 and over in reporting fraud and providing information.

### **Report to Local Police as Well as One or More of These Federal Govt. Databases**

- [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov) FBI Internet Related Fraud
- [www.reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov) Federal Trade Commission
- [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov) Report Identity Theft to the FTC
- <https://www.uspis.gov/report> U.S Postal Inspection Service
  - Report theft/fraud involving mail 1-877-876-2455

**US Dept. Justice Elder Justice Initiative (EJI)** Manages/supports many federal programs

- <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice>
- National Elder Fraud Hotline (see above)
- Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement (EAGLE) <https://eagle.usc.edu/>
- DOJ 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Elder Abuse Report (2023) <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-issues-fifth-annual-elder-justice-report>

### **FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center**

- Elder Fraud 2022 Annual Report
  - [https://www.ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2022\\_IC3ElderFraudReport.pdf](https://www.ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2022_IC3ElderFraudReport.pdf)
- Locating local field offices
  - <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>
- How sworn law enforcement agencies can register for free access.
  - Access through Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) at [https://le.fbi.gov/informational\\_tools/leep](https://le.fbi.gov/informational_tools/leep)
- Elder Fraud brochure- downloadable
  - [https://www.ic3.gov/Content/PDF/Elder\\_Fraud\\_Tri-fold.pdf](https://www.ic3.gov/Content/PDF/Elder_Fraud_Tri-fold.pdf)
- Elder fraud warnings, complaint portal, additional information
  - <https://www.ic3.gov/Home/EF>

## **Federal Trade Commission (FTC) <https://consumer.ftc.gov/scams>**

- To request fraud/scam updates, download useful short articles to share with victims, and outreach to the public.
  - [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFTCCONSUMER/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USFTCCONSUMER\\_8](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFTCCONSUMER/subscriber/new?topic_id=USFTCCONSUMER_8)
- Scam advice (downloadable) in many languages
  - National Consumer Protection Week March 3-9, 2024
  - Scam/Fraud materials in 12 languages
    - <https://consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts/2024/01/ncpw-speak-against-scams-your-language>
    - <https://consumer.ftc.gov/features/languages>
- Bulk order/downloadable documents to share with victims/public.
  - <https://www.bulkorder.ftc.gov/>
- How can Law Enforcement Agencies register to access FTC's complaints database?
  - <https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/consumer-sentinel-network>

**United States Attorney's Offices** includes press releases, resources, outreach, programs.

- Find your US Attorney's Office
  - <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>
  - Different resources/press releases, etc.
- Example- US Attorney's Office Central District of CA
  - Press release "Los Angeles County Trio Found Guilty of Laundering Target Gift Cards Purchased by Victims of Transnational Fraud Rings"
    - [://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/los-angeles-county-trio-found-guilty-laundering-target-gift-cards-purchased-victims](https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/los-angeles-county-trio-found-guilty-laundering-target-gift-cards-purchased-victims)

## **Relevant Federal Law and Guidelines**

- Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (2017)EAPPA
  - Summary <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s178/summary>
  - <https://uscode.house.gov/statutes/pl/115/70.pdf>
- **US Attorney General Guidelines for Victim/Witness Assistance**
  - <https://ovc.ojp.gov/library/publications/attorney-general-guidelines-victim-and-witness-assistance-2022-edition>
    - Reporting guidelines for elder and dependent adult exploitation/fraud for DOJ employees, Page 40
    - Employer/Debt Notification, page 55
    - Provisions on mandatory Restitution, special populations, etc.

