



Find a Bank

Looking for information on a current or former bank? [Click here](#) to visit the Federal Reserve National Information Center's institution search form.



Financial Education Resources

[Click here](#) to visit the OBA Education Foundation's Financial Education Resource Guide.



Helpful Links

[Click here](#) for a list of to financial services sites, government agencies, state and federal regulators and more.



Employment Opportunities

OBA has partnered with [BankTalentHQ](#), a nationwide talent management website dedicated to the banking industry.



Small Business Resource Center

Helpful state and national resources for small businesses.



Elder Abuse Prevention

This Elder Financial Abuse Prevention toolkit includes helpful links and information.



OREGON BANKERS ASSOCIATION Protecting Seniors from Financial Exploitation

BANK RESOURCES

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Oregon Bankers Association (OBA) has been proactive in addressing elder financial abuse since 1995, including passing legislation to provide liability protection to banks reporting suspected abuse. Through ongoing training and partnerships with organizations like the Oregon Department of Justice, the Oregon Department of Human Services – Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigations and AARP, we strive to protect Oregon's seniors.

Elder financial exploitation is a growing concern, with criminals targeting seniors through fraud, scams, and unauthorized financial activity. OBA is committed to raising awareness and providing resources to help protect older adults from financial abuse. Whether the perpetrators are strangers, caregivers, or even family members, it is critical to recognize the warning signs and take action.

By staying informed and utilizing these resources, we can work together to safeguard our senior community from financial exploitation.

Understanding Elder Financial Abuse

Elder financial exploitation involves the illegal or improper use of an older individual's funds, property, or assets. It can take many forms, including unauthorized use of funds, coercion, or deceptive practices. Perpetrators can include family members, caregivers, or strangers, and their actions can lead to significant financial and emotional harm.

Recognizing the Signs

Identifying changes in a person's established financial patterns is key to spotting financial abuse. Red flags include:

- Unexplained withdrawals or transfers.
- Sudden changes in financial management.
- New, unauthorized signatories on accounts.
- Unpaid bills despite sufficient funds.
- Isolation of the elder from friends or family.

For a comprehensive list of warning signs, refer to the ABA's resource on **14 Red Flags for Elder Financial Abuse** or visit the Oregon Department of Justice's **Elder Abuse page**.

Reporting Abuse

In Oregon

If you suspect elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation in the state of Oregon, call 1-855-503-SAFE (7233). This is a statewide hotline to report abuse or neglect of any adult or child to the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). In an emergency, call 911 or the local police.

Time is of the essence in reporting suspected elder financial exploitation. Financial Institutions may contact county Adult Protective Services offices directly. **Click here** (login required) for a listing of emails and phone numbers. Reports should also be filed with local law enforcement. For more information about reporting abuse in Oregon, visit the **ODHS website**.

Outside of Oregon

If the victim lives in another state, information and referral is available from the national Eldercare Locator, a public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging. Call 1-800-677-1116, Monday through Friday 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. PDT or **click here** and scroll to "Have a Question" section to chat with one of their information specialists.



Financial Institution Resources for Prevention and Support

The OBA, in collaboration with various organizations, offer the following resources for training bank staff and customers.



**BANKSAFE
RESOURCES**

AARP BankSafe Initiative

The BankSafe Initiative helps the financial industry better meet consumers' financial needs and safeguard their assets. The initiative focuses on four key areas:

- Preventing financial exploitation
- Empowering family caregivers
- Helping those with dementia
- Making banking tools and environments easier to access

With the average victim losing \$120,000, prevention of financial exploitation is critical to AARP's mission to empower people to choose how they live as they age. BankSafe meets this need by conducting research into consumer insights, facilitating partnerships between the aging network and the financial industry, and developing the innovative BankSafe training platform to help financial professionals identify and stop suspected exploitation.

FDIC Money Smart for Older Adults

This program raises awareness among older adults and their caregivers on how to prevent fraud, scams, and other elder financial exploitation. The curriculum encourages advanced planning and informed financial decision-making. Money Smart for Older Adults was developed jointly by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The curriculum can be taught in full or by individual topics. The module and topics consist of three parts, an instructor guide, resource guide, and PowerPoint slides that supplement classroom instruction. The materials are free of charge.

FDIC RESOURCES

ABA Safe Banking for Seniors™

An American Bankers Association Foundation program that provides free resources to help banks educate their communities on combating elder financial exploitation.

ABA RESOURCES



Federal Financial Regulatory Agency Resources

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB), the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), and state financial regulators issued a joint statement on December 4, 2024, to provide supervised institutions with examples of risk management and other practices that may be effective in combatting elder financial exploitation. The joint statement provides strategies that can be effective in identifying, preventing and responding to elder financial exploitation.

FEDERAL RESOURCES

Community Resources for Protecting Seniors from Scams & Fraud

Education is one of the best defenses against scams. Fraudsters often target seniors through lottery scams, fraudulent investments, and impersonation schemes. Legitimate organizations, including banks and government agencies, will never contact a customer unsolicited to request personal or financial information. If such a request is received, do not respond. Instead, contact your local bank branch or the appropriate authorities directly. Protect yourself and your loved ones with these resources:

The following organizations offer valuable resources to help seniors and their families recognize and prevent fraud:

- **ABA 14 Red Flags for Elder Financial Abuse:**
Learn to identify warning signs of financial exploitation.
- **Tips to Spot Lottery Scams:**
Understand how to detect and avoid common lottery and sweepstakes scams.
- **Guidance on Choosing a Financial Caregiver:**
Receive advice on selecting a trustworthy individual to manage financial matters.
- **AARP Fraud Watch Network:**
AARP offers resources and support to help seniors and their families spot and avoid scams.

Additionally, community organizations can engage in education programs using resources from the FDIC.

- **FDIC Money Smart for Older Adults**
This program raises awareness among older adults and their caregivers on how to prevent fraud, scams, and other elder financial exploitation. The curriculum encourages advanced planning and informed financial decision-making. Money Smart for Older Adults was developed jointly by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The curriculum can be taught in full or by individual topics. The module and topics consist of three parts, an instructor guide, resource guide, and PowerPoint slides that supplement classroom instruction. The materials are free of charge.

[Home](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Join OBA](#) | [Helpful Links](#) | [Site Map](#)

1149 Court Street NE • PO Box 13429 • Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 581-3522 • info@oregonbankers.com

Copyright © 2025 Oregon Bankers Association. All rights reserved.

14

Red Flags for Elder Financial Abuse

The key to spotting financial abuse is to look for change in a person's established financial patterns. Watch out for these red flags:

1. Unusual activity in an older person's bank accounts, including large, frequent or unexplained withdrawals
2. Changing from a basic account to one that offers more complicated services the customer does not fully understand or need
3. Withdrawals from bank accounts or transfers between accounts the customer cannot explain
4. A new "best friend" accompanying an older person to the bank
5. Sudden non-sufficient fund activity or unpaid bills
6. Closing CDs or accounts without regard to penalties
7. Uncharacteristic attempts to wire large sums of money
8. Suspicious signatures on checks, or outright forgery
9. Confusion, fear or lack of awareness on the part of an older customer
10. Checks written as "loans" or "gifts"
11. Bank statements that no longer go to the customer's home
12. New powers of attorney the older person does not understand
13. A caretaker, relative or friend who suddenly begins conducting financial transactions on behalf of an older person without proper documentation
14. Altered wills and trusts

For more information, visit [aba.com/Consumers](https://www.aba.com/Consumers)

