

**Aging and Disability Resource Center of County**

{ADD Contact Information}

**In partnership with:**

|  |
| --- |
| **PROTECT YOURSELF!**  From Financial Abuse and Exploitation |
| Experts say financial abuse will be the crime of the 21st Century:  **Are you prepared?** |
| **Here are some tips to make sure you don’t fall victim to fraud and scams** |

# RESOURCES

Aging and Disability Resource Center / Adult Protective

Services of County

Legal Action Wisconsin:

Elder’s Rights Project

1-844-614-5468

[MailERP@legalaction.org](mailto:MailERP@legalaction.org)

Wisconsin Medicaid Fraud and Elder Abuse Hotline

1-800-488-3780

Do Not Call Registry

1-888-382-1222

[www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov/)

Federal Trade Commission (Sign up for scam alerts) [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov/)

Free Credit Report Annually

1-877-322-8228

[www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com/)

# WHEN IN DOUBT, REACH OUT!



What Financial Abuse Looks Like

* Family member or caregiver misusing

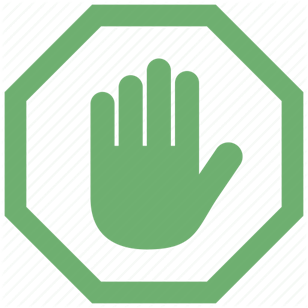
your funds

* Someone misleading you or intimi- dating you into sharing financial or personal information
* Someone stealing your money or steal- ing your identity
* Taking money without consent from joint bank accounts
* Writing checks without authorization
* Romance/Relationship scams
* Someone calls impersonating a loved one or saying your loved one needs money right away
* A person tries to intimidate you into buying products or services you don’t need; like reverse mortgages
* A caregiver asks you to divest or sell

off your investments

**Financial abuse costs seniors**

**over $36 billion dollars per year.**



* Review your bank statements monthly and your credit report quarterly
* Don’t give out financial, social security or credit card information over the phone unless you initiated the call
* NEVER wire money to anyone you’ve never met
* Don’t sign any document without fully understanding it
* NEVER sign a blank check and/or give it to someone to complete
* Consult your financial institution or advisor before adding anyone to your bank accounts
* Keep important documents and extra checks in a lock box or safety deposit box
* Don’t respond to emails from an

unknown source

* Contact the company directly by phone or in person if any request sounds suspicious or too good to be true
* If your credit or debit card is lost or stolen, contact your financial

institution immediately

* Contact your financial institution
* Call your local non-emergency police line
* Contact the ADRC directly for

assistance:

* Phone:
* Email:

**If you think you or**

**someone you know may be the victim of a scam:**

RED FLAGS

* Unexpected problems with accounts not balancing
* Personal property missing
* Large withdrawals or transfers from bank accounts
* Isolation from long-time friends and family
* Sudden deep involvement with new “friends”