Signs of Elder Abuse or Vulnerable Adult Abuse

Indicators of maltreatment can include, but are not limited to:

NEGLECT / SELF-NEGLECT

- · Unkempt, dirty, body odor
- · Appearing hungry or malnourished
- Soiled or urine soaked bedding
- Unable to manage one's own financial affairs

ABUSE

- Unexplained bruises, welts, sores, cuts or abrasions
- Decreased contact with neighbors, friends or family
- Sudden changes in behavior such as extreme withdrawal, depression or anxiety
- Confining an adult against his/her will

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

- Unexplained missing funds or valuables
- · Assets being transferred or sold
- Sudden changes made to will or banking practices
- Adult not allowed to speak for him/ herself or make decisions

Adult Protective Services Administration

APS Registry

Effective July 1, 2007, DES created a registry of substantiated reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults. This report contains the perpetrator's name, DOB, nature of the allegation made and the date and description of the disposition of the allegation (A.R.S. 46-459). To view the registry: https://des.az.gov/APSRegistry

To request APS records, email: <u>PublicRecordsRequest@azdes.gov</u> Mail your written request:

> APS Custodian of Records 1789 W. Jefferson St. Phoenix, AZ 85007 Mail Drop 6271



Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 602-542-4446; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for DES services is available upon request. • Disponible en español en línea o en la oficina local.

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Who is a vulnerable adult?

An individual who is 18 years of age or older who is unable to protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation by others because of a physical or mental impairment. This includes an incapacitated person.



APS Authority and Duties

- Receives reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults.
- Evaluates the need for protective services and offers appropriate services based on need, availability and acceptance.
- Refers to the Public Fiduciary for guardianship and conservatorship in each county when appropriate.
- Requests medical and financial records when appropriate.

APS does not:

- Remove an adult from their living environment against their will
- Require an adult to accept services
- Make financial decisions
- · Serve as a guardian
- Interfere in a capacitated adult's chosen lifestyle

DEFINITIONS

Abuse

Intentional infliction of physical harm, Injury caused by negligent acts of omission, unreasonable confinement, sexual abuse or sexual assault.

Neglect

Neglect is defined as the deprivation of food, water, medication, medical services, shelter, supervision, cooling, heating or other services necessary to maintain a vulnerable adult's minimum physical or mental health.

Exploitation

The illegal or improper use of a vulnerable adult's resources for another's profit or advantage.



To report abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult call:

1-877-SOS-ADULT (1-877-767-2385)

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

24 hour reporting online
Report Adult Abuse and Neglect/Self-Neglect