EAGLE Tactical Training

Quick Start Guide

EAGLE
Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement

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The Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement (EAGLE) training was developed by experts at the National Center on Elder Abuse via a generous grant from the Department of Justice. EAGLE demonstrates DOJs commitment to the strengthening of training and tools for Law Enforcement (LE).

This Trainer's Manual will make it easy to facilitate the EAGLE training. The training involves various presentation methods including text, videos, and audio recordings to help engage your audience. In this manual you will find tips on how to present the information and encourage active discussion. Use only what you need to best suit your audience.

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It will be the trainer's and their institution's responsibility to issue a certification of completion.

We have provided a template for your customization at the end of this guide which may comply with your state requirements.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the presentation, participants should be able to:

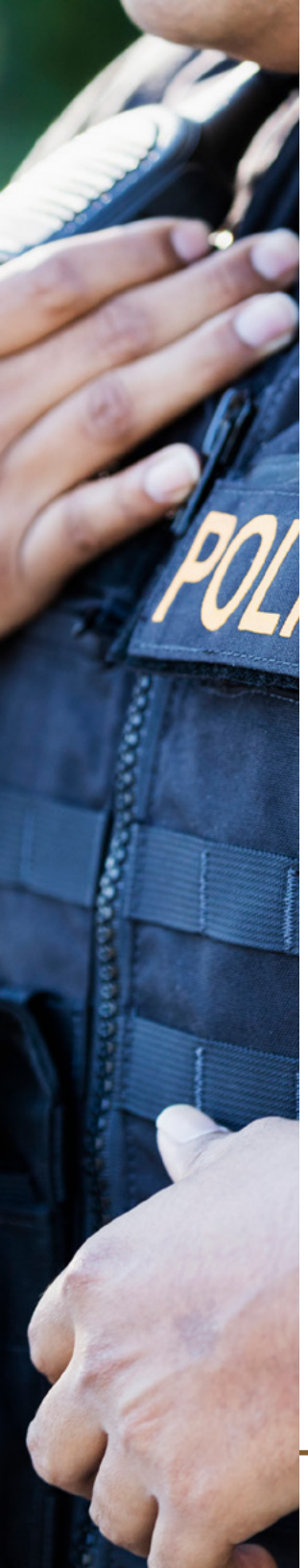
1. Differentiate and understand the elements of elder abuse including risk factors, types, prevalence and signs.
2. Recognize the impact of elder abuse as a growing issue.
3. Use EAGLE to identify, intervene, and resolve cases of elder abuse.
4. Comprehend the multidisciplinary approach to various elder abuse cases.

Please do the following BEFORE the presentation:

- **Review the EAGLE website** (eagle.usc.edu) to familiarize yourself with the tools that will be shared.
- **Review the presentation** so that you feel comfortable with the content.
- **Keep in mind your audience** and the aspects of elder abuse that they may be acquainted with or unaware of.
- **Consider tailoring your presentation** to your community by researching local elder abuse statistics, local resources, or even a message from local LE leadership.
- **Plan your take home message.** Emphasize the crucial role that LE plays in preventing and responding to elder abuse.

Additional Considerations

- Speaker notes are available on certain slides for additional guidance.
- Focus on the key message of how LE can use their unique expertise to detect and respond to elder abuse.
- Remind the audience that the EAGLE website is a valuable tool that they can refer to.



PART 1: Elder Abuse 101

APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES

Introduction

4-6 MIN.

SLIDES 1-4

Get to know your audience. Ask participants to share more about their role as LE.

Explain that the training will consist of:

1. An introduction into the crime of elder abuse.
2. Techniques that will be helpful in working with older adults, gathering evidence, and conducting case investigations.
3. Introduction to the Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement (EAGLE) tool.
4. Engaging case studies that explore the multidisciplinary approach.

Resource

The Elder Justice Initiative is an excellent resource for further information on elder abuse. Visit www.justice.gov/elderjustice.

TRAINING MODULE 1: Elder Abuse Overview, Facts and Figures

10-12 MIN.

SLIDES 5-11

This section is an opportunity to bring to light the reality and relevance of elder abuse. Emphasize that elder abuse knows no boundaries. Remind the audience that aging is not a distant concept. Treating older adults with the dignity and respect that you hope to receive when you reach their age can make all the difference in an investigation.

SLIDE 7

Begin with the **Law Enforcement Divisions that Often Encounter Elder Abuse** icons (www.justice.gov/file/1174026/download), reading clockwise from the top. See speaker notes for more details.

SLIDE 8

Discussion Opportunity: Take 2 minutes to let the audience recall relevant experiences. Gaining an understanding of the participants' experience with elder abuse cases will help tailor the training to meet their needs. Keep in mind that many people focus on one type of elder abuse, particularly financial.

SLIDE 10

Elder Abuse is growing exponentially, and in turn, calls made to dispatch concerning elder abuse are also growing.

Discussion Opportunity: Consider asking if your audience has noticed an increase in elder abuse related calls. **Highlight the key facts** on the speaker notes for this slide.

SLIDE 11

Emphasize that elder abuse is complex and requires keen observation skills and empathy.

Discussion Opportunity: Consider asking about what specific LE skills would be helpful in elder abuse cases.

TRAINING MODULE 2: Elder Abuse Risk Factors

6-8 MIN.

SLIDES 12-16

This section provides a closer look into how elder abuse can occur. Refer to the speaker notes for details on each risk factor.

SLIDE 14

Make sure you are in "slideshow mode." Click on each box to reveal more information on why elder abuse is underreported.

Resource

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2020. *Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adults: Opportunities for the Health Care System*. https://doi.org/10.17226/25663

TRAINING MODULE 3: Types of Elder Abuse

25-30 MIN.

SLIDES 17-44

This section provides an overview of five different types of elder abuse (eagle.usc.edu/types-of-abuse. Let your audience know that the same quick-review format is also available on the EAGLE site, and provides concise definitions, signs and relevant questions to ask for assistance in the field.

SLIDE 18

Emphasize that **not all signs of elder abuse are easily detectable or straightforward**. LE should be aware of subtle signs and take in the surroundings when assessing an older adult's well-being. See the speaker notes for examples.

Discussion Opportunity: Consider beginning this section by asking the audience which forms of elder abuse they are familiar with.

LE should not discount an older adult's story because of being told the older adult has dementia. People with dementia can often describe difficult experiences very accurately.

Special Note on Sexual Abuse

There is often a disconnect and disbelief that sexual abuse happens to older adults. Disregarding an older adult's account of sexual abuse because it is unimaginable should never happen.

RESOURCE: National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) has additional information concerning sexual elder abuse on their website at www.ncall.us.

Training Review

10-15 MIN.

SLIDES 41-44

REVIEW KEY TAKEAWAY

Emphasize that LE play a crucial role in detecting Elder Abuse as first responders. LE should follow their intuition, look for signs, document what they observe, get their eyes on the older adult, and ask questions.

WORKING WITH OTHERS

LE can work with Adult Protective Services and multidisciplinary teams to effectively respond to these complex cases.

SLIDE 43

Discussion Opportunity: Consider asking what stood out to the audience after watching the final video clip. What is something you had not considered before or is there an experience that came to mind?

PART 2: The Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement (EAGLE) and Case Study Activities

Introduction to EAGLE

15-20 MIN.

SLIDES 1-10

This section will assist the audience in acquainting themselves with the EAGLE materials. EAGLE is a free tool for LE that assists in identifying, intervening, and investigating cases of elder abuse. It is a tool developed by LE for LE and has been tested by departments across the country.

SLIDE 4

Key resources on the EAGLE site contain elder abuse 101, state specific laws on elder abuse, a first responder checklist, an evidence collection checklist, a community resource referral tool, multiple training opportunities, and engaging roll-call videos.

CASE STUDIES: Using EAGLE in Cases of Elder Abuse

15-20 MIN. PER CASE

SLIDES 11-33

Now that your audience has learned about elder abuse and the EAGLE tool, the case study section provides the opportunity to apply what was learned to real-life cases. Tailor the pacing of this section to your audience and use the interactive format to encourage participation and discussion.

Certificate

OF COMPLETION

This certificate acknowledges that the participant below has completed the Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement EAGLE Tactical Training

This certificate is awarded to and recognizes

_____

_____ _____

Training Coordinator Date

EAGLE

Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement