

ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR

B. EDMOND WATERS
COMMISSIONER



HERITAGE WEST BUILDING, SUITE 300
201 EAST MARKHAM STREET
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-1692
TELEPHONE: (501) 324-9260
FACSIMILE: (501) 324-9268

ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

JUNE 15  WORLD ELDER ABUSE
AWARENESS DAY

NEWS RELEASE TEMPLATE: WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

THE ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY BY ASKING CITIZENS TO WATCH FOR SIGNS OF ELDER FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

June 15, 2016 — In recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, the Arkansas Securities Department (“Department”) spotlights the importance of safeguarding Arkansas’s senior population by keeping a watchful eye for signs of elder financial exploitation and promptly reporting possible abuse to appropriate officials.

Elder financial abuse is rising with the rapid aging of the North American population, due in part to the amount of wealth seniors have accumulated throughout their careers and their increasing isolation.

“Many in our older population are vulnerable due to social isolation and distance from family, caregivers, and other support networks,” Securities Commissioner Waters said. “The days of aging in communities surrounded by generations of family members are fading into the past. We need as many eyes and ears as possible listening and watching for signs of suspect elder financial exploitation.”

To help fight this problem, the Department suggests watching for the following warning signs of suspicious behavior that may indicate potential elder financial exploitation:

- Has an elder moved away from existing relationships and toward new associations with other “friends” or strangers?
- Has a new person entered the elder’s life and shown an excessive interest in the elder’s finances or accounts?
- Are you unable to speak directly with the elder despite repeated attempts at contact?
- Does the elder display unexplained excitement over a financial windfall or prize check and reluctance to discuss details?

If these sound familiar, Commissioner Waters recommends contacting the Department at 501-324-9260 or 800-981-4429.

Contact information for all state and provincial securities regulators, as well as adult protective services agencies and other governmental resources, is available on the North American Securities Administrators Association's Serve Our Seniors website at serveourseniors.org.

NASAA, of which the Department is a member, is the oldest international organization devoted to investor protection. Its membership consists of the securities administrators in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the provinces and territories of Canada, and Mexico. www.nasaa.org.

#####