

Personal Safety Tips

- Install deadbolts and locks on all exterior doors.
- Do not unlock your door unless you know the person or verified the person's identification.
- When out and about, be aware of your surroundings and trust your instincts.
- Park in well-lighted areas.
- Avoid parking near dumpsters, woods, large vans or anything that limits visibility.
- Never leave valuables in plain view, even if your car is locked. Put them in the trunk and out of sight.
- Even if you are rushed, look around before you get out of your car and stay alert.

Protect yourself or a senior you know by applying the tips in this brochure



Senior Exploitation Unit

Office of the District Attorney
Delaware County Courthouse
Media, Pennsylvania 19063



To report elder abuse, obtain more information or request a presentation at your community group, non-profit or faith-based organization, please call:

610-891-5249

seniorcrimes@co.delaware.pa.us
www.delcoda.com

DELAWARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Senior Exploitation Unit

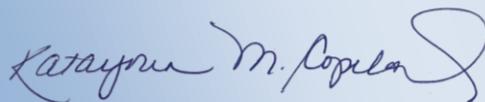


KATAYOUN M. COPELAND
District Attorney

Delaware County
Office of the District Attorney
Criminal Investigation Division
www.DelcoDA.com

Office of the District Attorney *Senior Exploitation Unit*

As District Attorney and the Chief Law Enforcement Officer for Delaware County, I want to ensure that all of our seniors are protected and safe. For this reason, we recently expanded our Senior Exploitation Unit which was created to solely investigate and prosecute those who cheat, abuse or deceive our older residents. Our detectives target physical, sexual and economic abuse of senior citizens. These cases involve all kinds of abuse, from scams over the phone, to physical neglect, to theft by caregivers. We also work to educate seniors about various forms of senior abuse. Please take the steps to protect yourself and a senior you may know by applying the tips in this pamphlet. When you hit those golden years, you deserve to enjoy them. And the District Attorney's office is working hard to keep you and your loved ones safe and secure.



Katayoun M. Copeland
District Attorney

Identity Theft Prevention

- Use up-to-date anti-virus and firewall software on computers.
- Take outgoing mail to a safe mailbox.
- Shred sensitive documents.
- Review monthly bank statements and credit card statements for irregularities.

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF IDENTITY THEFT, TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

- Contact your creditors to close compromised accounts.
- Post alerts on your credit reports by calling the three national credit bureaus, **Equifax, Trans Union, and Experian.**
- Review your credit reports.
- The law requires major nationwide consumer reporting companies to give you a free copy of your credit report each year, if requested Call 1-877-322-8228.
- File a police report with your local police.

Do Not Call List

- Remove your name from marketing lists.
- Register your telephone numbers with the National Do-Not-Call Registry of the Federal Trade Commission. Call 1-888-382-1222

Tips to Help Protect Your Finances

- Resist pressure to buy anything on the spot. Review every contract with someone you trust.
- Before hiring a contractor, get more than one estimate, check references, and put everything in writing.
- Check with your local code enforcement to ensure contractor is licensed.
- Never pay all of the money up-front, or in cash.

