

COALITION STRUCTURE

District Attorney General

Aging Network

Adult Protective Services

Law Enforcement

Hospital Senior Services

Home Health Services

Legal Services

Senior Support Services

Media

Emergency Shelters

Financial Services

East Tennessee
ElderWatch
is an Affiliate of the
Tennessee
Vulnerable Adult Coalition

An educated consumer
is an Empowered
consumer ... **ElderWatch**
Acts to Empower
consumers in this region



9111 Cross Park Drive
Suite D-100
Knoxville TN 37923
865/691-2551
www.tvaonline.org

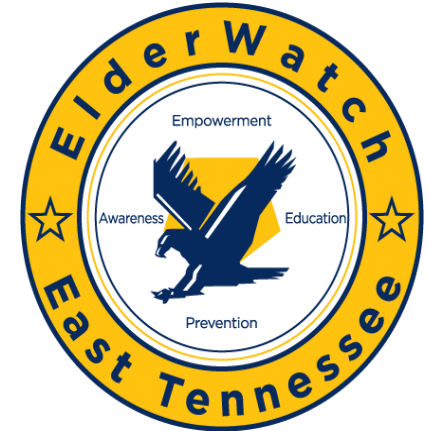
*If you know of someone
who might be at risk of
Abuse, Neglect or
Exploitation ... contact:*

Adult Protective Services

1-888/277-8366

**Tennessee Bureau
of Investigation**

865/686-1900



**East Tennessee
ElderWatch
functions to Empower
consumers ...
advancing Prevention
through Awareness,
Education and
Community-Based
Activity**



East Tennessee **ElderWatch** is an
Advocacy and Public Service outreach of the
East Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability, a
Division of the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency

**Be a part of the Solution ...
Partner with an ElderWatch Affiliate**

Do you know someone who might be At Risk from: Frauds or Scams ... Abuse/Neglect ... Exploitation?

Criminal and/or Negligent behaviors place consumers At Risk

We are our brother's keeper ... yet the concept of friends being extended family is rapidly vanishing from civilized society. This has opened the door for those who would willfully perpetrate harmful acts or deliberately ignore both personal and community responsibility.

East Tennessee **ElderWatch**, as a project of the East Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability, seeks to counter the actions of those who would prey on the vulnerability and good conduct of others. We work through awareness and education activities to make information on these occurrences common knowledge and easily accessible.

Frauds and Scams

*Those who perpetrate frauds and
scams are **Criminals***

Frauds and scams are robbery. Robbery can be committed with a gun, with a pen, with a keyboard or through a ruse.

If it seems too good to be true—it **most likely is!**

If someone contacts you and directly or through trickery (phishing) requests/demands personal information (bank, credit card numbers, etc.) — **discontinue contact immediately!**

Use common sense—unfortunately trust has become a rare commodity that is no longer a general characteristic of society.

Abuse and/or Neglect

*Violence is **NOT** OK*

To be hurt or frightened, or to have something taken from you is **wrong**.

Abuse can be ...

... hitting, pinching, slapping, kicking, unwanted sexual advances or contact ... **anything that hurts you physically!**

... threatening, yelling, saying frightening things to you, name calling, keeping you away from your family and friends ... **anything that frightens you!**

Neglect can include ...

... not giving your medications to you, someone else taking your medicine, not giving you enough to eat, and not helping with your personal care (baths, etc.)

Exploitation

*Exploitation is a **Deliberate** act*

Those who choose to exploit others take their:

- Money
- Possessions
- Property
- Bank checks
- Savings/Investments
- Independence & dignity

Exploitation is often carried out through the feigning of friendship, distraction schemes and aggressive badgering and haranguing of consumers by individuals who deal in substandard and often non-existent services.

Its saddest incarnation is through the abuse of Powers of Attorney—most frequently perpetrated by a family member.