

“Paradise Costs—A Victim’s Daughter Fights Back Against Elder Abuse”

Directions for reality writing letters and petitions:

This download is specifically designed to be sent to ANY recipient. We urge you to send separate signed copies to President Obama, your U.S. Senators, U.S. Congress person, your state senators and congress person and the governor of your state. This is especially important now because the economy will place the vulnerable at increasing risk.

To obtain correct and current contact information re: the above, please call 411, ask at your local library, post office, social service agency or any local or state government agency for the name and correct and current mailing address of your legislators.

Or, please ask any computer literate person to assist you in helping the aging in this country. This is arm-chair lobbying, it’s simple and, what’s more, it is an opportunity to make younger people aware that they will be in danger, as well, if action is not taken NOW. Participating makes a great community or class project. And remember, the only dumb question is the one that is not asked.

To locate/contact each of the following type into the browser the following:

U.S. Senators: go to www.Senate.gov, click on the word, SENATORS, locate your state and click on it. Both of your Senator’s names and address will appear.

U.S. Congressman: go to www.House.gov, if you know your complete zip code (look at your mail from your credit card or utility companies) type it into the search box or for it search at the U.S. Postal Service: www.usps.com/zip4

State and local officials: searches will vary state to state. Please ask for help.

Contact President Obama : mailing address: President Obama, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500, fax number: 202-456-2461, e-mail: comments@whitehouse.gov.

Instructions for the following letters:

- 1. Add today’s date on line #1**
- 2. At #2, write in the name of the official being address, e.g.: Mr. President, Senator (name), Congressman (name) or Congresswoman (name), Governor (name), etc.**
- 3. At #3, your signature**
- 4. At #4, please print your name**
- 5. At #5, please print your address**
- 6. At # 6, please print your city, state and zip code**

Please mail your completed letters to the President, Senators, etc. in a white business size envelop after attaching a first-class U.S. postage stamp to each envelop. Recent developments demonstrate the power of a single vote—PLEASE USE YOUR POLITICAL CLOUT AGAIN NOW...the life you save may be your own!

Also, contained in the download are some important tips in becoming aware of the staggering issues involved in elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. Please pass them on.

Thank you.

1: Date: _____

2: Dear _____

Please make the needs and protection of senior citizens across this country a priority. I urge you to support making elder justice reforms as a human rights issue in our nation.

It's imperative that the Elder Justice Act, U.S. House of Representative Bill number HR-1783, U.S. Senate Bill number S-1070 and Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2008, Bill number HR-5352, be supported into law as soon as possible as initial steps in protecting America's aging. More important, once passed these laws must be enforced and amended promptly to serve seniors.

It's also critical that additional federal laws be created, amended and enforced addressing neglect, abuse and exploitation in probate law, powers of attorney, guardianship, conservatorship, breach of fiduciary duty, etc., thereby serving, advocating and protecting the welfare of the largest number of elderly.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

3: X _____
Signature

4: Please print your name _____

5: Address _____

6: City, State, Zip _____

Please pass a copy of this blank letter to your clergy person, physician, educator, library, coworkers, community newspaper, Girl and Boy Scout Troop, etc. and ask them to pass it on; help us STOP ELDER ABUSE. Mail or FAX completed letters to the president, your U.S. Senator or Congress person today!

This is social action in book form:

PARADISE COSTS-A Victim's Daughter Fights Back against Elder Abuse

By Irene A. Masiello- Afterword: Bennett Blum, MD

www.ParadiseCosts.com – www.BennettBlumMD.com

“Paradise Costs—A Victim’s Daughter Fights Back Against Elder Abuse”
quick & helpful tips about elder abuse, neglect and exploitation

DEFINITION OF ELDER ABUSE: “Elder abuse” is an umbrella term. An elder abuser is any person, entity, etc., who abuses, exploits, neglects, violates the human rights of any senior citizen. Elder abuse includes physical, emotional, financial, pharmaceutical, medical or legal exploitation, breach of fiduciary duty, guardianship & conservatorship abuse or exploitation.

According to research and U.S. Dept of Justice documents, if a senior citizen is cognitively, nutritionally, visually, hearing impaired and/or cannot explain the need and/or ramifications of any document whether it is a legal contract, a will, a power of attorney, a check, a bank transfer, etc., the person that accepts the change may be an abuser or exploiter. A senior citizen who simply says, “yes,” and agrees, stating they understand the document and/or the situation is NOT to be considered to understand **unless** they can explain what the paperwork, financial transaction, etc., means, the reason for it, why it’s needed and the impact of actual effects now or the eventual outcome on their life. COACHING to obtain an answer from anyone in any form may be elder abuse or exploitation.

VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: Amnesty International states, “Human rights include civil and political rights, such as the right to life...” You decide! Does any person or entity who abuses, neglects or exploits a senior’s diminished capacity, utilizes undue influence, exerts pressure of any kind from nagging, coercion, promises of life-long care, etc. threatens isolation or isolates, abandonment or deceives an elder by removing a senior’s ability to live their life expectancy because of mental, emotional, physical abuse and/or financial exploitation violate human rights? While the above is not currently the law in this country, let’s compel our legislators to protect the rights of American citizens in our own country.

HIGH RISK SENIORS: Senior citizens who are isolated (by choice or by someone else’s design), dependent (mentally, physically or emotionally), easily manipulated, frail, gullible, have families that have substance abuse (alcohol and drugs) issues or the senior him or herself is a substance abuser require special attention. Any senior diagnosed with any type of dementia or Alzheimer’s is incredibly at risk. Those suffering from nutritional deficiencies or ailments like diabetes and those who are hearing, mobility and visually impaired are high risk as well. Professional assessment is needed.

IDENTIFYING FINANCIALLY “AT RISK” SENIORS: Elders who cannot count change, e.g. don’t understand that \$10 can be two five-dollar bills or a combination of singles, cannot understand the components of a checking account statement, cannot name coins, do not know their value and/or cannot count them, those who get lost and wander, in general, are seniors who require medical, financial and legal assistance immediately.

ELDER ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION ARE CRIMES: If you are suspicious, notify the authorities, take names, badge numbers, make a note of date, times, circumstances and report it. Please use Dr. Blum’s professional techniques & paper work (accepted by most attorneys, courts, agencies, etc. in the W. Hemisphere) available inside Paradise Costs to formulate evidence and then submit it to the proper officials.

The above is the opinion of the author; it is a small amount of information about a serious, dangerous and complex subject; please consult your licensed health, legal and social service professional for more in-depth and complete information. ©Copyright January 2009-Irene A. Masiello-all rights reserved...the above is from Paradise Costs-A Victim’s Daughter Fights Back against Elder Abuse, (2nd edition) afterword by Bennett Blum, MD.

**“Paradise Costs—A Victim’s Daughter Fights Back Against Elder Abuse”
getting others involved... “the ground game” to raise awareness & help
STOP ELDER ABUSE & EXPLOITATION NOW**

The American Medical Association estimates it will take 30-40 years before the awareness of elder abuse reaches what child abuse has currently.

You can change that

Here’s how:

- Start talking about elder abuse, exploitation and neglect
- Ask your doctor to make copies of the petition & the letters in this packet & make them available to his colleagues & at the front desk
- Ask the manager of your local office supply store to donate 100 copies of the above documents & circulate this information
- Ask schools, churches, Girl and Boy Scout troops, shopping centers, beauty salons movie theaters, sporting events, etc. in your area to distribute copies to everyone.
- Request that your community newspaper print information about elder abuse, who is at risk, what the red flags are, etc. Free bylined articles will be provided.
- Keep an eye on your elderly neighbors and family members.
- Understand that elder abuse has MANY components—GET INFORMED!
- Report your suspicions—elder abuse, neglect & exploitation are crimes
- Join the Elder Justice Coalition—call 202-682-4140

The Starlight Network News (SNN) will provide lists of “red flags” that may suggest elder abuse, neglect or exploitation as well as lists of high risk seniors to any newspaper, website or magazine that wants to print them. Please call your local publication and ask them to print the lists as a public service. Remember, em-POWER yourself & others with information.

SNN is also collecting regional data. If you would like to be a state captain collecting news stories about elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, guardianship or conservatorship abuse anywhere in the 50 states, please write to StarNetNews@cs.com for further details. We also need volunteers to clip out newspaper stories, gather news reports on-line and record shows or TV news about crimes against the elderly.

If you would like to send your own story, please remove all names of persons involved and give only city and state. Please keep your story down to 750 words and embed it in an e-mail (no attachments will be opened) and send to the above. Also, we would like to start a non-profit organization to unite those who want ACTION NOW to combat ALL forms of elder abuse. Your donations are appreciated; make checks payable Starlight Network. Please pass this on. Thank you.