



Missouri Attorney General  
**ERIC SCHMITT**



## **Protect the Elderly from Financial Exploitation**

Financial exploitation comes in many forms, ranging from employees, caregivers, strangers and even family members who take money and property from the elderly without permission.

Learn About Scams That Target Seniors

**1-800-392-8222**

[www.ago.mo.gov](http://www.ago.mo.gov)



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# Common Scams that Target the Elderly

**Foreign Lotteries/Sweepstakes** are known for sending seniors announcements and will call them on the phone to say they won large sums of money. The “winner” usually is asked to wire money to cover fees and taxes. No legitimate lottery or sweepstakes collects money up front from winners.

**Home Repair** schemes can involve unscrupulous door-to-door salesmen who will start work without permission or out-right lie about the need for work and/or cost of materials and labor. Some of these may involve individuals who provide asphalt work on driveways, chimney work and other repairs. Intimidation can be a form of collecting more money from our senior citizens.

**Identity Crime** involves seniors that are vulnerable because they depend on caregivers for help with banking, shopping and paying bills. Check references and know who is providing care. If not, it can lead to someone using another person’s credit card, check or financial information to steal money.

### **Possible Signs of Financial Abuse**

- Sudden change in financial status
- Frequent checks written to a caregiver/stranger
- Withdrawn from family

If you suspect financial exploitation  
of the elderly, please call

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