



City of Elk Grove
Police Department



July 23, 2025

Hon. Bunmi Awoniyi
Presiding Judge
Sacramento County Superior Court
720 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: 2024-2025 GRAND JURY REPORT
NO EQUAL JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF ELDER FINANCIAL ABUSE
DATED: June 4, 2025**

Dear Hon. Presiding Judge Awoniyi:

The Sacramento County Grand Jury has directed the Elk Grove City Council to submit specific responses to Findings 3, 6, 8, 9, 13 and Recommendations 3, 6, 9, and 13, and invited the Chief of Police for the City of Elk Grove to submit specific responses to Findings 3, 6, 8, 9, 13, and Recommendations 3, 6, 8, 9, and 13, contained in the 2024-2025 Sacramento County Grand Jury Report, to the Presiding Judge of the Sacramento Superior Court by August 25, 2025, as required by Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05. The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Chief have reviewed the Grand Jury Report and hereby jointly submit the requested responses.

FINDING F3: The Grand Jury finds some local law enforcement agencies do not consistently collect data to track elder financial abuse cases received from APS, making it impossible to determine if these cases are fully investigated or referred to the DA for prosecution.

COMMENT TO FINDING F3:

The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department disagree with this finding as it pertains to the manner in which the Elk Grove Police Department collects data to track elder financial abuse cases received from APS. The Elk Grove Police Department has a policy that all reported or suspected cases of elder and dependent adult abuse require investigation and a report, even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated. The Elk Grove Police Department consistently collects data to track elder financial abuse cases received from the Sacramento County Adult Protective Services ("APS"). For all APS referrals that allege elder financial abuse, a report number is generated in the Elk Grove Police Department's MARK43 report system. The data entered into the Mark43 system allows the allegations to be categorized by type (i.e., APS financial or physical abuse report). This data entry allows the Elk Grove Police Department to retrieve records

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specific to the type, which could be then used to determine if the cases are fully investigated and referred to the Sacramento County District Attorney's ("DA") office for prosecution.

FINDING F6: The Grand Jury finds law enforcement agencies in Sacramento County are not placing as much priority on elder financial abuse as other types of elder abuse, allowing abusers to avoid consequences.

COMMENT TO FINDING F6:

The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department disagree with this finding as it pertains to the manner in which the Elk Grove Police Department places priority on elder financial abuse crimes. It is the policy of the Elk Grove Police Department to investigate all reported incidents of alleged elder and dependent adult abuse and ensure proper reporting and notification as required by law. It is also the policy of the Elk Grove Police Department to make arrests or to seek arrest warrants for elder and dependent adult abuse. In furtherance of these policies, the Elk Grove Police Department has dedicated the following non-exclusive list of resources to address elder financial abuse:

- 1. Maintaining Detectives who specialize in crimes related to elder financial abuse;**
- 2. Maintaining a dedicated Detective liaison who is specifically responsible for elder abuse;**
- 3. Training all Police Officers in the matters related to elder abuse, to include:**
 - a. Specialized training;**
 - b. Legislative mandated training; and**
 - c. Patrol training through annual briefings; and**
- 4. Allocation of resources to support extensive reoccurring public outreach and crime prevention efforts. For example, since January of 2024, the Elk Grove Police Department's Volunteers In Patrol (VIPs) Fraud Prevention Team have given over 40 presentations to over 1300 seniors regarding elder financial abuse. The VIPs distribute a monthly newsletter with articles related to elder financial abuse to twenty senior communities registered with the Elk Grove Police Department.**

FINDING F8: The Grand Jury Finds several of the law enforcement agencies in Sacramento County lack dedicated detectives with specialized training in the investigation of elder financial abuse and as a result many abusers are not being held accountable.

COMMENT TO FINDING F8:

The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department disagree with this finding as it pertains to detectives within the Elk Grove Police Department and the specialized training they receive to investigate elder financial abuse. The Elk Grove Police Department maintains dedicated detectives with specialized training in the investigation of elder financial abuse. As stated above, the Elk Grove Police Department maintains Detectives who specialize in crimes related to elder financial abuse, and maintains a dedicated Detective Liaison who is responsible for monitoring and addressing elder abuse. Once a

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Detective has completed the Elk Grove Police Department's investigations training program, they will have the ability to conduct any number of investigations related to Persons Crime, Family Services, and Property and Financial Crime. These detectives are fully capable of investigating elder financial abuse cases. The Elk Grove Police Department also currently maintains two detectives who have received further specialized training in investigating a host of different financial crimes cases, which include elder financial abuse.

Additionally, as provided for by Elk Grove Police Department Policy, the Elk Grove Police Department provides training on best practices in elder and dependent adult abuse investigations to members tasked with investigating these cases. The training includes:

- 1. Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate;**
- 2. Conducting interviews;**
- 3. Availability of therapy services for adults and families;**
- 4. Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to elder and dependent adult abuse investigations; and**
- 5. Availability of victim advocates or other support.**

FINDING F9: The Grand Jury finds local uniformed law enforcement officers do not receive continuing education and training in how to recognize the signs of elder financial abuse, thereby allowing abusers to continue their victimization without consequences

COMMENT TO FINDING F9:

The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department disagree with this finding as it pertains to Elk Grove Police Officers and the continued education and training they receive to recognize the signs of elder financial abuse. Uniformed law enforcement officers within the Elk Grove Police Department receive continuing education and training in how to recognize the signs of elder financial abuse. In addition to the training described in the Comments to Findings 6 and 8 above, the Elk Grove Police Department's Training Sergeant also ensures that appropriate personnel receive the following training related to elder abuse:

- 1. Materials from California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) as described in Penal Code § 368.6(c)(5)(A) related to elder and dependent adult abuse;**
- 2. Advanced training on senior and disability victimization available from POST, the United States Department of Justice, the Disability and Abuse Project of the Spectrum Institute, or other sources as provided by Penal Code § 368.6(c)(16)(A).**

The Training Sergeant also ensures that appropriate training is provided to dispatchers, community services officers, front desk personnel, and other civilian personnel who interact with the public (Penal Code § 368.6 (c)(7)).

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FINDING F13: The Grand Jury finds that there is insufficient community outreach by agencies within Sacramento County to educate elder citizens and their families and caregivers about financial abuse, so the signs of abuse may not be recognized.

COMMENT TO FINDING F13:

The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department disagree with this finding as it pertains to the community outreach performed by the City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department to educate elder citizens and their families and caregivers about financial abuse. The Elk Grove Police Department maintains a designated Dependent Adult Abuse Liaison § 368.6) who acts as a liaison to other responsible agencies (defined by Penal Code § 368.6(b)(15)) to increase cooperation and collaboration among them while retaining the law enforcement agency's exclusive responsibility for criminal investigations (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650). The Liaison also connects with senior and disability communities and to the public to encourage prevention and reporting of senior and disability victimization.

Additionally, as described in the Comment to Finding 6, the Elk Grove Police Department allocates resources to support extensive reoccurring public outreach and crime prevention efforts. Since January of 2024, the Elk Grove Police Department's Volunteers In Patrol (VIPs) Fraud Prevention Team have given over 40 presentations to over 1300 seniors regarding elder financial abuse. The VIPs distribute a monthly newsletter with articles related to elder financial abuse to twenty senior communities registered with the Elk Grove Police Department. The Elk Grove Police Department's VIPs program related to elder abuse has served as a model for other agencies in the region.

Elk Grove Police Department Detectives also host and attend community informational meetings which focus on preventative steps the elderly community can take from becoming a victim of financial crimes and scams. The City of Elk Grove's website provides information regarding financial crimes and elder fiduciary abuse cases, which includes additional resources (<https://elkgrove.gov/safety-dashboard/investigations>), and the Elk Grove Police Department maintains a telephone hotline (916-478-8282) and email address (elderfraud@elkgrove.gov) monitored by the VIPs for people specifically requesting assistance with elder financial abuse.

RECOMMENDATION R3: The Grand Jury recommends that all local law enforcement agencies maintain a record of elder financial abuse cases referred by APS, including whether the law enforcement agency conducted additional investigation and whether it sent the case to the DA for potential prosecution, to begin by December 31, 2025.

COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION R3:

This recommendation has been implemented. The Elk Grove Police Department currently complies with the Grand Jury recommendation that all local law enforcement agencies maintain a record of elder financial abuse cases referred by APS, including whether the

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law enforcement agency conducted additional investigation and whether it sent the case to the DA for potential prosecution.

RECOMMENDATION R6: The Grand Jury recommends that all law enforcement agencies in Sacramento County raise the priority of elder financial abuse investigations to that of physical abuse, to begin September 30, 2025.

COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION R6:

This recommendation has already been implemented consistent with the policies and practices of the Elk Grove Police Department. The Elk Grove Police Department consistently evaluates the priority of all reports of abuse and other crimes, including, elder financial abuse, and all cases are diligently vetted and reviewed. A number of factors are considered when assessing the appropriate level of priority for all criminal reports made to the Elk Grove Police Department, including, but not limited to, the risk posed to, and harm incurred by, the victim, the workability of the case with regard to witness availability and cooperation, whether the evidence demonstrates, or has the potential to demonstrate, the elements of a crime, and whether the crime occurred within the jurisdiction of the Elk Grove Police Department or whether it needs to be referred to another agency. Reports of elder financial abuse are reviewed in the same manner as other reported crimes, and appropriately assigned priority based on the facts of the case. The Elk Grove Police Department will continue to assess all reports of elder financial abuse and look for opportunities to raise the priority of elder financial abuse cases as necessary depending on the facts of the case, available resources, and other relevant factors, and will raise the priority of any investigation as necessary given the facts of the case.

RECOMMENDATION R8: The Grand Jury recommends that each law enforcement agency in Sacramento County have at least one trained detective dedicated to investigating elder financial abuse crimes, by December 31, 2025.

COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION R8:

This recommendation has already been implemented. As stated above in the Comment to Finding 8, the Elk Grove Police Department maintains dedicated detectives with specialized training in the investigation of elder financial abuse. These detectives are fully capable of investigating elder financial abuse cases. The Elk Grove Police Department also currently maintains two detectives who are specifically assigned and trained to handle all financial crimes, and have received further specialized training in investigating a host of different financial crimes cases, which include elder financial abuse.

RECOMMENDATION R9: The Grand Jury recommends that the uniformed officers of each local law enforcement agency receive regular ongoing education and training to recognize signs of elder financial abuse, to begin by December 31, 2025.

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COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION R9:

This recommendation has already been implemented. As stated above in the Comments to Findings 6, 8, and 9, all uniformed law enforcement officers within the Elk Grove Police Department receive continuing education and training on how to recognize the signs of elder financial abuse.

RECOMMENDATION R13: The Grand Jury recommends that the law enforcement agencies, APS, the DA's office, and the FAST team develop and implement a coordinated plan for more widespread community outreach by all parties, by December 31, 2025.

COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION R13:

This recommendation has already been implemented. The City of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Police Department take great pride in the proactive community outreach provided to the City's elderly community, and support efforts that enhance outreach and mitigate the victimization of the elderly. The Elk Grove Police Department maintains a good relationship with the District Attorney's office and other agencies within the County that deal with elder financial abuse, and will continue to engage in discussions regarding additional outreach opportunities.

Sincerely,



BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN
Mayor
City of Elk Grove



BOBBY DAVIS
Chief of Police
Elk Grove Police Department

cc: Erendira Tapia-Bouthillier, Grand Jury Coordinator
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