

# Minutes

## Elder Abuse Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services October 26, 2006 Department of Human Services

**Attendees:** Peggie Beck (VC), Eunice Dutton, Marilyn Hinds, Kay Kirkbride, Kathleen Schonau, Joan Staley, John Helm

**Excused/Absent:**  
**Guests:** Elaine Barrett, Jeffrey Brandon, Chuck Frazier, Judy Giggy, Robert Lawrence, Jan Margosian, Lucy Morgan, Barbara Nelson, Remona Simpson

**Staff:** Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck, Wendy Russell

**Called Meeting to Order 11:30**

**Review Agenda:** Jan Margosian will also be presenting expert advice.

**Announcements:** The Everyday Heroes ceremony was held recently, with Hardy Myers as the keynote speaker. There are posters now available. Thanks were offered to Jan Margosian and the Justice Department for their printing services. Marilyn suggested that more of the brochures from the ceremony be made up and distributed. A website has now been developed and the Attorney General has graciously put their consumer protection contact number for reporting. The plan is for Everyday Heroes to become an independent program in the future.

### Expert Advice

### Jan Margosian & Judy Giggy

Judy is not aware of any legislative concepts being proposed on Adult Protective Services. There is a proposal to have Ombudsman positions added. They just finished a time study survey to find out how long it takes to research cases and do the job. Everyday Heroes and the Financial Abuse have been very effective projects in raising public awareness on signs of abuse not only in the community but also in other agencies.

APS is now reporting on total allegations received instead of total cases. APS is now trying to track all reports and resolutions to the question whether it is really abuse or can be resolved another way. There are more trainings to the field staff being provided to strengthen and improve the investigative and reporting process for better prosecution results. The committee asked for statistics on abuse, reports, and criminal prosecution. Judy will provide these at a later date.

The cost of criminal background checks for Family members who voluntarily want to check out potential caregivers was discussed. The committee would like to ask the Oregon State Police if it is possible to contract with them to do background checks.

Jan Margosian provided an extensive summary on the most frequently used scams against seniors. Seniors continue to be targeted at 9 out of 10 scams. She explained that men and women are scammed differently. The Justice Department has a legislative concept on fair business practices that is being proposed. Her goal is to educate care providers as well as older adults. Everyday Heroes and AARP statewide money management that help low income bill pay and the SHIBA program are existing programs that need help and suggested that the committee help promote them. Jan also talked about an aggressive way to promote fighting fraud with vans willed with materials and give lectures in all communities including rural areas. Arizona's attorney general has already taken this on and would be willing to provide ideas and information.

**Adjourn: 1:00**

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Report on total allegations of abuse from APS	Judy Giggy	12-06
Obtain statistics on abuse, reports, criminal prosecutions.	Jan Margosian	12-06
New harsher sentences will be sent to the group	Jan Margosian	??
Send out proposed work plan to members	Marc	12-06
Stay in email communication	Members	ongoing