

NAPSA Scam Advice Forum July 2024

Topic: Scott Pirrello, San Diego Deputy DA, Elder Justice Task Force (EJTF) will share information on the San Diego Elder Justice Task Force and insights into how such teams can be set up nationwide in local/federal collaborations to more effectively respond to victim reports, investigate and prosecute transnational fraud perpetrators and assist their victims.

Co-Hosts: Steve Baker and Debbie Deem

Sign up for Steve's weekly 'www.Bakerfraudreport.com' for news/trends/arrests/prosecutions worldwide on transnational frauds/scams.

National Elder Fraud Hotline (US DOJ) 1-833-372-8311

National federal hotline for adults 60 and over to report fraud and providing support and resources/safety tips. Help with filing IC3 and FTC reports. Many languages.

<https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope>

Report Fraud to Local Police/APS as Well as One or More of These Federal Govt. Databases/Agencies

- www.ic3.gov FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center
- www.reportfraud.ftc.gov Federal Trade Commission
- www.identitytheft.gov Report Identity Theft to the FTC
- <https://www.uspis.gov/report> U.S Postal Inspection Service
Or report 1-877-876-2455
- If Crypto Investment Confidence Fraud/Crypto-Romance Investment - contact your local U.S. Secret Service office, in addition to filing an IC3 report. <https://www.secretservice.gov/contact/field-offices>

FBI Guidance For Crypto-Currency Scam Victims in Completing an IC3 report
<https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA230824>

San Diego Elder Justice Task Force

- 60 Minutes article “Cyber Scammers Target Parents, Grandparents for Digital Theft” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2r1MJk85Zo>
- “Five Chinese Nationals Indicted for Scamming Seniors Out of More Than \$27 Million” July 31, 2024 <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/five-chinese-nationals-indicted-scamming-seniors-out-more-27-million>
- “Man Charged in \$1.49 Million Scam Involving Bitcoin ATM Deposits and Bulk Gold Purchases: Victim is Retiree Who Lost Life Savings” April 18, 2024 <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/man-charged-149-million-scam-involving-bitcoin-atm-deposits-and-bulk-gold-purchases>
- “Man Charged in Scams Targeting Seniors” May 23, 2024 <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/man-charged-scams-targeting-seniors-0>
- “U.S. Attorney’s Office, FBI Recover Millions for Elderly Fraud Victims” June 20, 2024 <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/us-attorneys-office-fbi-recover-millions-elderly-fraud-victims>
- “Eight Indicted in Nationwide Grandparent Fraud Scam” (August 25, 2021) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/eight-indicted-nationwide-grandparent-fraud-scam>
- “San Diego Elderly Woman Targeted by Scammers Loses \$200,000 of her Savings in Most Common Current Scam” October 17, 2023 https://www.sdcda.org/content/office/newsroom/tempDownloads/7d729010-7df5-4ce0-8081-b859e434a2dc_Elder%20Scam%20News%20Release%2010-17-23.pdf

LEO access to IC3 and FTC databases;

- Sworn law enforcement can register for free access to each database:
 - Internet Crime Complaint Center IC3.gov. Access through the FBI’s LEEP portal
 - https://www.cjis.gov/static/CJISEAI/leep_trifold.pdf
 - Federal Trade Commission <https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/consumer-sentinel-network>

Related Reports and Efforts

- “Transnational Crime in Southeast Asia, A Growing Threat to Global Peace and Security” US Institute on Peace, May 2024
 - https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/ssg_transnational-crime-southeast-asia.pdf
- “More Countries Set Up Anti-Scam Centres: Increased Teamwork, Speed Vital To Retrieve Lost Funds” (The Strait Times)
 - <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/more-countries-set-up-anti-scam-centres-increased-teamwork-speed-vital-to-retrieve-lost-funds-spf>
- Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement <https://eagle.usc.edu/>
- National White Collar Crime Center <https://www.nw3c.org/UI/Index.html>
- US DOJ Elder Justice-Law Enforcement Resources and trainings www.justice.gov/elderjustice/law-enforcement-1

Free National Online Support Programs (for all ages)

- **AARP ReST Program** Support for victims and family members of these frauds: To register (you don’t have to be AARP member, no age restriction)
 - <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/voa-rest-program/>
- **Cybercrime Support Network** Free romance imposter fraud 10 week online peer support program
 - <https://fightcybercrime.org/programs/romance-scam-recovery-group/>
- **GiveAnHour** Monthly free support programs for fraud victims and family members.
 - <https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/>
- Cathy Wilson, Licensed Therapist has free videos for victims of romance imposter frauds and classes (for a fee) on a variety of topics for family members, law enforcement and counselors at Scam Survivor Healing
<https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com/about-us/>

Please contact Debbie Deem if you become aware of additional group support programs or individual therapists who are working with transnational fraud victims and wish to coordinate with others.