

MONEY, FAMILY & PEACE OF MIND | SAFETY RESPONSE CARD

Pause. Verify. Connect.

When support may be becoming control, or someone is demanding an urgent and secret payment, slow the situation down. A warning sign is not proof; safety, dignity and the person's choices all matter.

1. Notice possible abuse

Look for patterns rather than drawing a conclusion from one event.

- Pressure involving money, property, wills or powers of attorney
- Control over money, information, phones or social contact
- Threats, humiliation, intimidation or treating the person like a child
- Unexplained withdrawals, missing property or unpaid bills

2. Spot scam pressure

Fraud often uses fear, affection, authority and speed to interrupt careful thinking.

- A sudden emergency, secrecy or impersonation of family, police or a bank
- Guaranteed returns or requests for crypto, gift cards or cash
- Requests to install software, share a screen or disclose a verification code
- Pressure not to hang up or discuss the request with anyone

3. Respond safely

Offer support without taking over or trying to investigate during the seminar.

- If it is safe, speak privately and listen without judgment
- Ask: What kind of help would you like?
- Verify independently using a phone number you already trust
- Preserve information and connect with appropriate professional support

Immediate danger and support

Call 911 for immediate danger. Ontario Seniors Safety Line: 1-866-299-1011 (free, confidential, 24/7). Suspected fraud: contact local police and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501.

Ontario elder-abuse information: ontario.ca/page/information-about-elder-abuse

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre: antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca

Community services and referrals: call 2-1-1 or visit 211ontario.ca

Educational information only. It does not replace legal, financial, medical, police or emergency advice. Respect the older adult's capacity, wishes, privacy and choices.