

SUBCHAPTER I—SUPPORTING FEDERAL
CASES INVOLVING ELDER JUSTICE

§ 21711. Supporting Federal cases involving elder justice

(a) Support and assistance

(1) Elder Justice Coordinators

The Attorney General shall designate in each Federal judicial district not less than one Assistant United States Attorney to serve as the Elder Justice Coordinator for the district, who, in addition to any other responsibilities, shall be responsible for—

(A) serving as the legal counsel for the Federal judicial district on matters relating to elder abuse;

(B) prosecuting, or assisting in the prosecution of, elder abuse cases;

(C) conducting public outreach and awareness activities relating to elder abuse; and

(D) ensuring the collection of data required to be collected under section 21722 of this title.

(2) Investigative support

The Attorney General, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall, with respect to crimes relating to elder abuse, ensure the implementation of a regular and comprehensive training program to train agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the investigation and prosecution of such crimes and the enforcement of laws related to elder abuse, which shall include—

(A) specialized strategies for communicating with and assisting elder abuse victims; and

(B) relevant forensic training relating to elder abuse.

(3) Resource group

The Attorney General, through the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, shall ensure the operation of a resource group to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, experience, sample pleadings and other case documents, training materials, and any other resources to assist prosecutors throughout the United States in pursuing cases relating to elder abuse.

(4) Designated elder justice working group or subcommittee to the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys

Not later than 60 days after October 18, 2017, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, shall establish a subcommittee or working group to the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys, as established under section 0.10 of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, for the purposes of advising the Attorney General on policies of the Department of Justice relating to elder abuse.

(b) Department of Justice Elder Justice Coordinator

Not later than 60 days after October 18, 2017, the Attorney General shall designate an Elder

Justice Coordinator within the Department of Justice who, in addition to any other responsibilities, shall be responsible for—

(1) coordinating and supporting the law enforcement efforts and policy activities for the Department of Justice on elder justice issues;

(2) evaluating training models to determine best practices and creating or compiling and making publicly available replication guides and training materials for law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, emergency responders, individuals working in victim services, adult protective services, social services, and public safety, medical personnel, mental health personnel, financial services personnel, and any other individuals whose work may bring them in contact with elder abuse regarding how to—

(A) conduct investigations in elder abuse cases;

(B) address evidentiary issues and other legal issues; and

(C) appropriately assess, respond to, and interact with victims and witnesses in elder abuse cases, including in administrative, civil, and criminal judicial proceedings; and

(3) carrying out such other duties as the Attorney General determines necessary in connection with enhancing the understanding, prevention, and detection of, and response to, elder abuse.

(c) Federal Trade Commission

(1) Federal Trade Commission Elder Justice Coordinator

Not later than 60 days after October 18, 2017, the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission shall designate within the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission an Elder Justice Coordinator who, in addition to any other responsibilities, shall be responsible for—

(A) coordinating and supporting the enforcement and consumer education efforts and policy activities of the Federal Trade Commission on elder justice issues; and

(B) serving as, or ensuring the availability of, a central point of contact for individuals, units of local government, States, and other Federal agencies on matters relating to the enforcement and consumer education efforts and policy activities of the Federal Trade Commission on elder justice issues.

(2) Reports to Congress

Not later than 1 year after October 18, 2017, and once every year thereafter, the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission and the Attorney General shall each submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report detailing the enforcement actions taken by the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice, respectively, over the preceding year in each case in which not less than one victim was an elder or that involved a financial scheme or scam that was either targeted directly toward or largely affected elders, including—

(A) the name of the district where the case originated;

- (B) the style of the case, including the case name and number;
- (C) a description of the scheme or scam; and
- (D) the outcome of the case.

(d) Use of appropriated funds

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 115-70, title I, §101, Oct. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 1209.)

SUBCHAPTER II—IMPROVED DATA COLLECTION AND FEDERAL COORDINATION

§ 21721. Establishment of best practices for local, State, and Federal data collection

(a) In general

The Attorney General, in consultation with Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, shall—

- (1) establish best practices for data collection to focus on elder abuse; and
- (2) provide technical assistance to State, local, and tribal governments in adopting the best practices established under paragraph (1).

(b) Deadline

Not later than 1 year after October 18, 2017, the Attorney General shall publish the best practices established under subsection (a)(1) on the website of the Department of Justice in a publicly accessible manner.

(c) Limitation

Nothing in this section shall be construed to require or obligate compliance with the best practices established under subsection (a)(1).

(Pub. L. 115-70, title II, §201, Oct. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 1211.)

§ 21722. Effective interagency coordination and Federal data collection

(a) In general

The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, on an annual basis—

- (1) collect from Federal law enforcement agencies, other agencies as appropriate, and Federal prosecutors' offices statistical data related to elder abuse cases, including cases or investigations where one or more victims were elders, or the case or investigation involved a financial scheme or scam that was either targeted directly toward or largely affected elders; and
- (2) publish on the website of the Department of Justice in a publicly accessible manner—

- (A) a summary of the data collected under paragraph (1); and
- (B) recommendations for collecting additional data relating to elder abuse, including recommendations for ways to improve data reporting across Federal, State, and local agencies.

(Pub. L. 115-70, title III, §302, Oct. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 1212.)

(b) Requirement

The data collected under subsection (a)(1) shall include—

- (1) the total number of investigations initiated by Federal law enforcement agencies,

other agencies as appropriate, and Federal prosecutors' offices related to elder abuse;

(2) the total number and types of elder abuse cases filed in Federal courts; and

(3) for each case described in paragraph (2)—

(A) the name of the district where the case originated;

(B) the style of the case, including the case name and number;

(C) a description of the act or acts giving rise to the elder abuse;

(D) in the case of a scheme or scam, a description of such scheme or scam giving rise to the elder abuse;

(E) information about each alleged perpetrator of the elder abuse; and

(F) the outcome of the case.

(c) HHS requirement

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, on an annual basis, provide to the Attorney General statistical data collected by the Secretary relating to elder abuse cases investigated by adult protective services, which shall be included in the summary published under subsection (a)(2).

(d) Prohibition on individual data

None of the information reported under this section shall include specific individually identifiable data.

(Pub. L. 115-70, title II, §202, Oct. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 1211.)

SUBCHAPTER III—ENHANCED VICTIM ASSISTANCE TO ELDER ABUSE SURVIVORS

§ 21731. Report

(a) In general

Not later than 1 year after the date on which the collection of statistical data under section 21722(a)(1) of this title begins and once each year thereafter, the Director of the Office for Victims of Crime shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that addresses, to the extent data are available, the nature, extent, and amount of funding under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601 et seq.)¹ for victims of crime who are elders.

(b) Contents

The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

- (1) an analysis of victims' assistance, victims' compensation, and discretionary grants under which elder abuse victims (including elder victims of financial abuse, financial exploitation, and fraud) received assistance; and
- (2) recommendations for improving services for victims of elder abuse.

(Pub. L. 115-70, title III, §302, Oct. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 1212.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984, referred to in subsection (a), is chapter XIV of title II of Pub. L. 98-473, Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2170, which was classified principally

¹ See References in Text note below.