



House Committee on Human Services: Adult Protective Services

*Beth Engelking, Assistant Commissioner for APS
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The mission of the Department of Family and Protective Services is to protect children, the elderly, and people with disabilities from abuse, neglect, and exploitation by involving clients, families, and communities.

The mission of Adult Protective Services (APS) is to protect older adults and people with disabilities from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

- APS conducts investigations of abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE) of persons age 65+ and persons with disabilities:
- **In-Home** investigates abuse, neglect and financial exploitation allegations of vulnerable adults in the community. APS also provides services to alleviate ANE.
- **Provider Investigations** investigates allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation by certain providers.

- Allegations of self neglect
 - Abuse and neglect by certain alleged perpetrators;
 - Caretakers
 - Paid caretakers whether private pay through insurance, Medicare (In-Home), or Medicaid (Provider Investigations)
 - Family members
 - Individuals who have an ongoing relationship with alleged victim
 - APS does not investigate a homeowner or operations of the home based solely on the landlord-tenant relationship.
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Who We Investigate (Cont.'d)

- APS may investigate allegations of abuse and neglect when a vulnerable adult lives in certain settings, such as:
 - Boarding homes which do not provide home health or personal care services
 - Adult foster care homes contracted by DADS, but not licensed as assisted living facilities (3 or fewer residents)
 - Home and Community-based Services (HCS) group homes (for persons with IDD)
 - Unlicensed homes providing personal care services to three or fewer individuals (not required to be licensed).

- APS does not regulate or specifically investigate boarding homes. APS may:
 - Investigate allegations of ANE against a boarding home operator if the operator is the representative payee, or if the relationship with the alleged victim is one beyond landlord-tenant
 - Investigate self-neglect by a client in boarding home settings
 - Refer criminal behavior to local law enforcement
 - Refer to DADS when the facility is licensed or subject to licensure.

APS may:

- Coordinate with local entities and authorities to deliver services
- Provide protective services to a client who is in a state of self neglect
- Assist a competent individual with placement in a more suitable location
- Seek a court-ordered removal for an individual that does not have capacity and is in a life threatening situation.