

CITY COUNCIL

The City of Orange Township, New Jersey

DATE June 5, 2024

NUMBER 311-2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION HONORING ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY ON JUNE 15, 2024 IN THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP.

(Sponsored by Council Members Jamie Summers-Johnson)

WHEREAS, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, or WEAAD, is an annual initiative launched on June 15, 2006, by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, in its 66/127 resolution, the United Nations General Assembly designated that date as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, a day in which the entire world voices its opposition to any form of abuse of the older generation; and

WHEREAS, WEAAD aims to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of the abuse older people suffer by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting them; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is one of the least investigated types of violence and does not get addressed in national action plans as frequently as other key social issues; and

WHEREAS, the UN International Plan of Action described elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue. Globally we have an aging population, with the number of older people in the world expected to be 1.4 billion by 2030; and

WHEREAS, research suggests that 4 to 6 percent of the elderly suffer from some kind of abuse, most of which go unreported; and

WHEREAS, this day is to make sure we remain focused on our elders, ensuring they lead a life of high quality and dignity; and

WHEREAS, help spread the word for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15. It can be hard to imagine that anyone would deliberately want to harm an elderly person, but unfortunately, elder abuse is a widespread problem; and

WHEREAS, some instances of elder abuse are intended to exploit the person financially; you've probably heard of scams targeting seniors; and

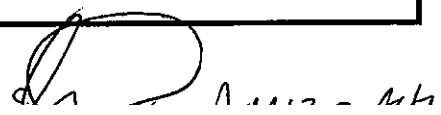
WHEREAS, in other cases, it is simple negligence: Caregivers do not provide the basic necessities, like nutritious food, appropriate medication, safety, or assistance with hygiene. If you see something, say something; and

WHEREAS, know the symptoms of abuse; and

WHEREAS, bedsores, bruises, or chafing could indicate that your loved one is being restrained to a bed or wheelchair, or otherwise physically abused; and

WHEREAS, if he or she has recently lost weight, malnutrition or dehydration could be at play, while poor hygiene is also an indicator of possible abuse; and

WHEREAS, watch, too, for changes in the person's mood; if they seem depressed, anxious, agitated, or listless, see if you can discover why; and

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WHEREAS, in short, any changes to an elder's behavior, disposition or physical condition could be cause for concern; and

WHEREAS, if you suspect something, say something.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township does recognize June 15, 2024 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we invite you to join us on a live stream event entitled:

Elder Fraud

Date & Time: Jun 5, 2024 01:00 PM

Description

This presentation will provide attendees with tools and strategies to enhance their ability to recognize and address fraud and abuse committed against vulnerable senior citizens. The presenters will discuss the types, signs and risk factors for elder fraud and abuse. The presenters will also address how to report elder fraud and abuse, and strategies for preventing mistreatment and fostering protection of senior citizens.

Adopted: June 5, 2024

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President