

Aging and Adult Services Agency
Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan Report
(FY2020 Appropriation Act - Public Act 67 of 2019)

March 1, 2020

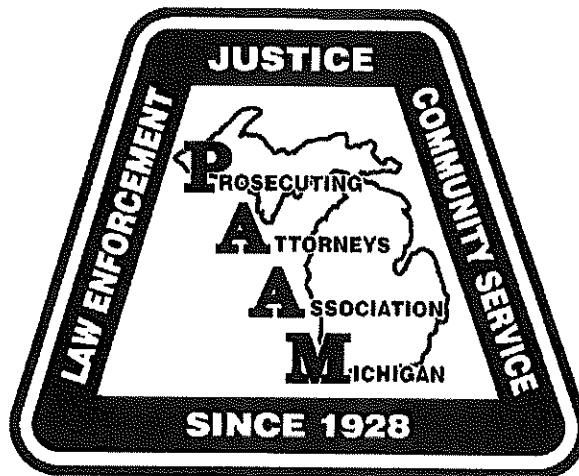
Sec. 1422. (1) *From the funds appropriated in part 1 for aging and adult services administration, not less than \$300,000.00 shall be allocated for the department to contract with the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan to provide the support and services necessary to increase the capability of the state's prosecutors, adult protective service system, and criminal justice system to effectively identify, investigate, and prosecute elder abuse and financial exploitation.*

(2) *By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan shall provide a report on the efficacy of the contract to the state budget office, the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the house and senate policy offices.*



**PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS
ASSOCIATION of MICHIGAN**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2019**



**PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION of MICHIGAN
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LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913**

PAAM 2019 ELDER JUSTICE/AT-RISK ADULT PROJECT (EJP) REPORT



Ryan Painter is PAAM's Elder Justice Resource Prosecutor ("EJP"). He has 16 years of experience in litigation and prosecution, and previously served as an APA in Shiawassee County.

Created October 1, 2012, the Elder Justice Project is a collaborative effort between the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and Adult Protective Services to provide training and support for those professionals involved in the investigation and prosecution of the abuse of vulnerable adults throughout the state of Michigan.

The primary goals of the project include:

- To solve problems
- Educate people on the issues related to vulnerable adult abuse
- Provide multidisciplinary training to partners serving vulnerable adults
- Assist investigative agencies and prosecutors as they prepare for the needs of what will soon become two million Michigan citizens
- Keep prosecutors current on the latest developments in the law
- Facilitate the flow of information between agencies
- Facilitate communication between counties, professionals and agencies

EJP continues to act as a liaison between the state's prosecutors, law enforcement and Adult Protective Services as they investigate and prosecute vulnerable adult abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The EJP also:

- Chairs the EJP Project Advisory Committee
- Teaches as a faculty member for the National Institute for the Prosecution of Elder Abuse
- Serves as the chairman for the law enforcement training subcommittee on the Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force.
- Serves as a member of the Tri-County Elder Abuse Community Response Team
- Develops trainings and informational materials for law enforcement, APS, and prosecutors, as well as other practitioners in the elder justice field
- Partners with the Department of Health and Human Services to provide training to their adult services workers, as well as coordinates multidisciplinary training efforts between DHHS and local law enforcement
- Promotes use of the Michigan Model Vulnerable Adult Protocol (MiMVP)
- Promotes use of the Vulnerable Adult Incident Report tool

Elder Justice/At-Risk Adult Training and Workshops

EJP has created an “APS in Court” curriculum for APS workers to learn testimony techniques in a realistic setting, and it has proven very popular and successful. EJP anticipates offering this class at least once every year. Additionally, EJP developed and continues to refine a core multidisciplinary training for APS workers, law enforcement, and prosecutors to enhance investigation and prosecution of vulnerable adult abuse.

**Table 1. Elder Justice/At-Risk Adult Program – Recap of Trainings
October 2018 to September 2019.**

Seminar	Dates	Participants
Elder Justice Community Event General Federation of Women’s Clubs United Methodist Church, Ewart	10/13/2018	Women’s Club Members
Elder Justice Community Event LARA “SeniorSafe” Series MSU Management Center, Troy	10/17/2018	Investment Professionals
Elder Justice Community Event LARA “SeniorSafe” Series L. William Seidman Center, Grand Rapids	10/18/2018	Investment Professionals
Resources for State & Local Elder Abuse Prosecutors Department of Justice Webinar Series	10/23/2018	General Public
Elder Abuse Update Michigan Guardianship Association Amway Grand, Grand Rapids	10/26/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Guardians • Attorneys

Elder Justice Community Event Kent County AAA, Grand Rapids	11/5/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent County AAA • General Public • Senior Citizens
Elder Justice Community Event LARA "SeniorSafe" Series Plum Hollow Country Club, Southfield	11/7/2018	Investment Professionals
Elder Law Attorney Training Hosted by Alison Hirschel & Michigan Elder Justice Initiative Lansing Community College, Lansing	11/15/2018	Elder Law Attorneys
APS in Court Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills	11/16/2018	APS Workers
The Prosecution of an Elder Abuse Case Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Lansing	11/30/2018	Prosecutors
Attorney General Investigator Training East Lansing	12/4/2018	Michigan Attorney General Investigators
Victim Rights Career Development Elder Justice Victim Refresher Bavarian Inn Conference Center, Frankenmuth	12/6/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • Victim Rights Advocates • Social Workers

<p>Investigating Vulnerable Adult Crimes</p> <p>GVSU Innovation Hub, Muskegon</p>	2/28/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Senior Services • Social Workers • Attorneys & Legal Aid • Case Workers
<p>Elder Justice Community Event</p> <p>LARA "SeniorSafe" Series</p> <p>Lansing Community College, Lansing</p>	3/13/2019	Investment Professionals
<p>VAN Meeting Presentation</p> <p>Gratiot County VAN</p> <p>Commission on Aging, Ithaca</p>	3/19/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Senior Services • Social Workers • Attorneys & Legal Aid • Case Workers
<p>Elder Justice Multi-Disciplinary Training</p> <p>Bay County Adult Services Collaborative</p> <p>Bay County DHHS Building, Bay City</p>	4/10/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Senior Services • Social Workers • Attorneys & Legal Aid • Case Workers
<p>Upper Peninsular Multi-Disciplinary Training</p> <p>Co-hosted by Elder Law of Michigan</p> <p>School District Administration Building, Sault Ste. Marie</p>	4/25/2019 & 4/26/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Senior Services • Social Workers • Attorneys & Legal Aid • Case Workers • Bank & Credit Union Tellers
<p>Elder Justice Multi-Disciplinary Training</p> <p>Hosted by Elder Law of Michigan</p> <p>Cass Co. Council on Aging Lowe Center, Cassopolis</p>	5/30/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecutors • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Senior Services • Social Workers • Attorneys & Legal Aid • Case Workers

Elder Justice Summit "The Changing Faces of Vulnerable Adult Abuse" Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi	07/19/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APS Workers • Law Enforcement • Prosecutors • Other Legal professionals • Victim Advocates • Adult Foster Care • Licensing Consultant • Medical professionals • Home Care/Services • Financial Services • Social Worker • Senior Services • Others
Law Enforcement Legal Update Police Department Headquarters, Hastings	9/5/2019	Law Enforcement
APS in Court Cooley Law School, Grand Rapids	9/19/2019	APS Workers

Professional Development

The EJP attended the following professional development events:

- Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, May 14-15, Kellogg Center, East Lansing
- National Adult Protective Services Association Conference, Aug. 19-22, Interlocken, Colorado
- State Bar of Michigan Elder Law Annual Conference, Sep. 30 - Oct. 4, Crystal Mountain

Technical Assistance

The EJP provides technical assistance to prosecuting attorneys, adult protective service workers and law enforcement by providing resource material, consultations, newsletters, webinars, and a listserv. Investigators and prosecutors were assisted by the EJP in solving problems on individual cases. The EJP helped develop a *Vulnerable Adult Incident Report* to help law enforcement, during the initial investigations. During trainings held by PAAM, the Vulnerable Adult Incident Report has been reviewed and promoted, and a copy is available for download on the PAAM website.

**Michigan Model Vulnerable Adult Protocol Development
Counties with a Protocol for the Investigation of Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Neglect &
Exploitation**

When the Elder Justice Project began, none of Michigan's 83 counties had a protocol for the investigation of vulnerable adult abuse (Michigan Model Vulnerable Adult Protocol or "MiMVP"). After training and working diligently, Michigan now has over 50 signed MiMVP agreements covering most Michigan counties. Many other counties are in the process of adopting a protocol.

**PREVNT
Prevent Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Today**

The Aging & Adult Services Agency, formerly Office of Services to the Aging, has granted funding to the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan to continue its work on the PREVNT Initiative, and expand from the original nine-month pilot program it began in 2014 to what is now a statewide effort. Primarily it allows PAAM to hire an investigator to provide investigative assistance and accept investigative referrals from all counties in Michigan. We also have continued to promote the use of multidisciplinary teams at the local level. PAAM hired retired police detective Thomas Holcomb as its PREVNT Initiative Elder Justice Financial Abuse Investigator in 2015, and he has continued his excellent work for Michigan's prosecutors, adult protective services workers, and law enforcement since that time.

PAAM is also currently working with the Michigan Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force. Our investigator, Tom Holcomb, has played a critical role on the law enforcement training subcommittee as a leader and resource to help create new, innovative training materials for use by law enforcement statewide. This has included a video training series that will be posted on MiTrain and made available to law enforcement across Michigan, as well as recommended changes to the MCOLES curriculum for Michigan's police academies.



Ryan C. Painter
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Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

1-15-20
Date