



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State recognizes the importance of respecting the rights of older New Yorkers, as well as the importance of protecting their safety, with full support and encouragement for preserving their dignity and independence; and

Whereas, each year, thousands of older New Yorkers tragically suffer the effects of neglect and/or physical, emotional, sexual or financial abuse; studies indicate that an estimated one in 24 cases of elder abuse is brought to the attention of the authorities; and

Whereas, it is important to know the signs of elder abuse, which includes physical trauma, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, financial insecurity and/or fear of family members, friends, caregivers, or strangers; and

Whereas, elder abuse is a significant public health problem; survivors suffer higher levels of psychological distress, are twice as likely to be hospitalized, and face greater risk of an early death than other older adults; and

Whereas, it is our collective responsibility to provide for safe and secure communities and living environments for older adults, and to encourage reporting of any suspected abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation to the Adult Protective Services of local social services districts, as well as law enforcement agencies, for investigation and intervention; and

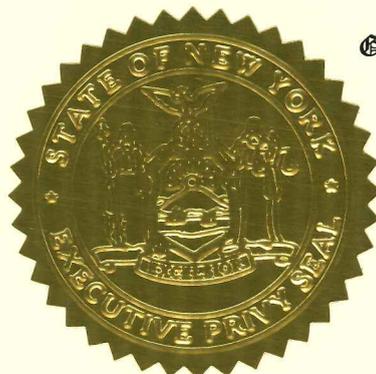
Whereas, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was launched on June 15, 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and World Health Organization at the United Nations, and was officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2011; as a global, social, and health and human rights issue that affects millions of older adults around the world, elder abuse deserves the attention of the international community; and

Whereas, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day provides New Yorkers with the opportunity to gain understanding of the problem of abuse and neglect among older adults, its scope and prevalence, and to learn about the warning signs of possible abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation; all New Yorkers are asked to unite and send a strong message that causing physical, emotional, and mental harm or injury to an older adult, taking advantage of an older adult, using methods of intimidation, or jeopardizing his or her welfare is inexcusable and, moreover, will never be tolerated in our State;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2016 as

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this ninth day of June in the year two thousand sixteen.

Governor

Wicham J. Mahon
Secretary to the Governor