



CA Elder Justice Coordinating Council

Facilitated by the Department of Aging, Department of Social Services,
and Department of Justice

Background:

On January 6th, 2021 the Governor released the state's [Master Plan for Aging \(MPA\)](#), which outlines over 100 action ready initiatives for implementation in 2021-2022. Elder justice is a core priority within the MPA and five of these initiatives directly address the protection of older adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Initiative #93 of the MPA specifically calls for the creation of a California Elder Justice Coordinating Council ("Coordinating Council") to "increase coordination and develop recommendations to prevent and address elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and fraud, including consideration of COVID-19 risks." California Health & Human Services Agency. In partnership with the Department of Justice, intends to convene this Coordinating Council, comprised of leaders from governmental and advocacy agencies and organizations across the state.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Coordinating Council is to increase coordination and develop recommendations to prevent and address the abuse, neglect, exploitation of older adults and adults with disabilities.

Membership:

- The Coordinating Council will reflect a broad array of State agencies and organizations with resources and expertise related to elder justice initiatives.
- Each State, County, and Federal department with a role in elder justice issues will designate their own representatives. State government membership will include representatives from:
 - California Health and Human Services Agency:
 - California Department of Aging (CDA)
 - California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
 - California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
 - Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
 - California Department of State Hospitals (DSH)

- Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
- California Department of Justice (DOJ)
- California Department of Insurance (CDI)
- California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
- California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency (BHCS)
- Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)

- County and Federal membership will include:
 - County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA)
 - Administration for Community Living (ACL), Region IX

- An open and transparent application for at least fifteen stakeholder members from regional and local government, advocacy, and community-based entities will occur prior to the first meeting of the Coordinating Council.

Operations:

- The Coordinating Council will be facilitated by CDA, CDSS, and DOJ with the support of other state government partners serving older adults and related elder justice issues.
- The Coordinating Council will meet quarterly, beginning in fall 2021. Workgroups will meet on an as-needed basis.
- Meeting agendas will be shared in advance of each meeting. Workgroup members are encouraged to suggest agenda items.
- Meetings will take place virtually. American Sign Language interpreting and Closed Captioning will be provided.
- Meeting will be open to the public and time will be reserved for public comment.
- Meetings will aim to adhere to principles of inclusion, collaboration, and effectiveness.
- A person-centered, data-driven, and equity-lens approach is encouraged as reflected in CHHS Agency's [Guiding Principles](#).

Contact:

Please email Engage@aging.ca.gov with questions or comments related to the Elder & Disability Justice Coordinating Council.