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Office of Adult Protective Services

Definitions of allegation and types of abuse, neglect,
or financial exploitation as defined in 89 Ill. Adm. Code 270.

Abuse means causing any physical, mental, or sexual injury to an eligible adult, including exploitation of such adult's financial resources.

Allegation means a charge or claim of abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation.

Confinement means restraining or isolating an individual for other than bona fide medical reasons.

Emotional Abuse means verbal assaults, threats of maltreatment, harassment, or intimidation.

Financial Exploitation means use of an eligible adult's resources by another to the disadvantage of that adult or the profit or advantage of a person other than that adult.

Neglect means another individual's failure to provide an eligible adult with or willful withholding from an eligible adult the necessities of life including, but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, or health care. This definition does not create any new affirmative duty to provide support to eligible adults. Nothing in the Adult Protective Services Act shall be construed to mean that an eligible adult is a victim of neglect because of health care services provided or not provided by licensed health care professionals.

Passive Neglect means the failure by a caregiver to provide an eligible adult with the necessities of life including, but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, or medical care because of failure to understand the eligible adult's needs, lack of awareness of services to help meet needs, or a lack of capacity to care for the eligible adult.

Physical Abuse means the causing of physical pain or injury to an eligible adult.

Sexual Abuse means any sexual activity with an eligible adult who is unable to understand, unwilling to consent, threatened, or physically forced to engage in such sexual activity.

Willful Deprivation is deliberate denial to an eligible adult of required medications, medical care, shelter, food, therapeutic devices, or other physical assistance, thereby exposing that person to the risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm. Willful deprivation shall not include the discontinuation of medical care or treatment when the eligible adult has expressed a desire to forego such medical care or treatment.

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The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966; 711 (TRS).