

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 3317

By: Bashore, Cantrell, Hill,
and May of the House

3 and

4 Green of the Senate

5
6 An Act relating to Alzheimer's disease; amending
7 Section 2, Chapter 123, O.S.L. 2022 (43A O.S. Supp.
8 2023, Section 10-115), which relates to
9 multidisciplinary team for investigation and
prosecution of elder or vulnerable adult abuse;
adding a requirement for the multidisciplinary team;
and providing an effective date.

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11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 123, O.S.L.
13 2022 (43A O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 10-115), is amended to read as
14 follows:

15 Section 10-115. A. In coordination with the District Attorneys
16 Council, each district attorney may develop a multidisciplinary team
17 for the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed against
18 the elderly or vulnerable adults in each county of the district
19 attorney or in a contiguous group of counties. The lead agency for
20 the team shall be chosen by the members of the team. The team shall
21 intervene in reports involving sexual abuse, abuse, neglect, or
22 exploitation of an elderly person or vulnerable adult as defined in
23 Section 10-103 of ~~Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

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1 B. The multidisciplinary elderly and vulnerable adult abuse
2 team members shall include, but not be limited to:

3 1. Mental health professionals licensed pursuant to the laws of
4 this state or licensed professional counselors;

5 2. Police officers or other law enforcement agents whose duties
6 include, or who have experience or training in, elder and vulnerable
7 adult abuse and neglect investigation;

8 3. Medical personnel with experience in elder and vulnerable
9 adult abuse and neglect identification;

10 4. Adult Protective Services, Office of Client Advocacy, and
11 long-term care workers within the Department of Human Services;

12 5. Multidisciplinary elder and vulnerable adult abuse team
13 coordinators; and

14 6. The district attorney or assistant district attorney.

15 C. 1. Subject to the availability of funds and resources, the
16 functions of the team shall include, but not be limited to:

17 a. whenever feasible, joint investigations by law
18 enforcement and Adult Protective Services, Office of
19 Client Advocacy, or long-term care staff to
20 effectively respond to reports of abuse against
21 elderly or vulnerable adult victims,

22 b. the development of a written protocol for
23 investigation of sexual abuse, abuse, neglect, or
24 exploitation cases of elderly or vulnerable adults and

1 for the interview of victims to ensure coordination
2 and cooperation between all agencies involved. Such
3 protocol shall include confidentiality statements and
4 interagency agreements signed by member agencies that
5 specify the cooperative effort of the member agencies
6 to the team,

7 c. communication and collaboration among the
8 professionals responsible for the reporting,
9 investigation, prosecution, and treatment of elderly
10 and vulnerable adult abuse and neglect cases,

11 d. elimination of duplicative efforts in the
12 investigation and the prosecution of abuse and neglect
13 cases committed against elderly or vulnerable adult
14 victims,

15 e. identification of gaps in service or untapped
16 resources within the community to improve the delivery
17 of services to the victim and family,

18 f. development of expertise through training. Each team
19 member and those conducting investigations and
20 interviews of elder or vulnerable adult abuse victims
21 shall be trained in the multidisciplinary team
22 approach, conduction of legally sound developmentally
23 and age-appropriate interviews, effective
24 investigation techniques and joint investigations as

1 provided through the State Department of Health, the
2 District Attorneys Council, the Department of Human
3 Services, or other resources. At least one team
4 member or those conducting investigations and
5 interviews of elder or vulnerable adult abuse victims
6 shall complete dementia-specific training on
7 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia that includes
8 one or more of the following:

- 9 (1) communication skills,
- 10 (2) problem-solving with challenging behaviors, or
- 11 (3) explanation of Alzheimer's disease and other
12 dementia,

13 g. formalization of a case review process and provision
14 of data as requested, and

15 h. standardization of investigative procedures for the
16 handling of elderly and vulnerable adult abuse and
17 neglect cases.

18 2. Any investigation or interview related to sexual abuse,
19 abuse, or neglect of elderly or vulnerable adults shall be conducted
20 by appropriate personnel using the protocols and procedures
21 specified in this section.

22 3. If trained personnel are not available in a timely manner
23 and if a law enforcement officer or the Department of Human Services
24 determines that there is reasonable cause to believe a delay in

1 investigation or interview of a victim could place the victim's
2 health or welfare in danger of harm or threatened harm, the
3 investigation may proceed without full participation of all
4 personnel, but only for as long as the danger to the victim exists.
5 The Department of Human Services shall make a reasonable effort to
6 find and provide a trained investigator or interviewer.

7 D. A multidisciplinary elder or vulnerable adult abuse team
8 shall have full access to any service or treatment plan and any
9 personal data known to the Department of Human Services that is
10 directly related to the implementation of the requirements of this
11 section.

12 E. Each member of the team shall protect the confidentiality of
13 the elderly or vulnerable adult and any information made available
14 to the team member. The multidisciplinary team and any information
15 received by the team shall be exempt from the Oklahoma Open Meeting
16 Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.
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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 7th day of March, 2024.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House
5 of Representatives

6 Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2024.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate