

# USC Verdugo Hills Hospital

Keck Medicine of USC

## LEGAL & FINANCIAL RESOURCES



Legal and financial concerns may involve managing daily affairs, expenses, and debt; making important health care decisions; as well as planning for long-term care expenses. Managing one's estate, such as property and/or other assets, also factors into these considerations.

Services and support can come from accountants, financial advisors, fiduciaries, realtors, and attorneys. Providers with specific training and expertise geared to older adults of varied economic backgrounds are available for tasks such as daily money management, estate planning, and property transactions.

Misuse of an older person's finances, whether from family, professionals or strangers, may constitute fraud and/or elder financial exploitation—a crime punishable under the law.

## LAWYERS & FIDUCIARIES

Online referral search

California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR) - (800) 474-1116 | [canhr.org](http://canhr.org)

LA County Bar Association Lawyer Referral & Information Service (SmartLaw) | [smartlaw.org](http://smartlaw.org)

National Association of Elder Law Attorneys  
[naela.org](http://naela.org)

Professional Fiduciary Association of California  
[pfac-pro.org](http://pfac-pro.org)

## Free/Low-Cost Legal Aid Services

### Bet Tzedek Legal Services

Landlord/tenant, home equity fraud, consumer law, bankruptcy, guardianship, wills, nursing home problems, government benefits issues.

(323) 939-0506 | [bettzedek.org](http://bettzedek.org)

### Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Housing/eviction defense, consumer law, family law, immigration, employment, government benefits. Locations: LA, Long Beach, Santa Monica  
(800) 399-4529 – English or other languages

[lafla.org](http://lafla.org)

### Neighborhood Legal Services

Self-Help Legal Access Centers – multiple locations  
(800) 433-6251 – General Legal Assistance  
(800) 896-3202 – Health Consumer Center

[nls-la.org](http://nls-la.org)

### Public Counsel

Landlord/tenant, home equity fraud, political asylum, bankruptcy, and children's rights.

(213) 385-2977 | [pubiccounsel.org](http://pubiccounsel.org)

## LEGAL & FINANCIAL RESOURCES

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### REPORTING ELDER ABUSE

#### Adult Protective Services (APS) LA County

24/7 response to investigate abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation of older and disabled adults.

**(877) 477-3646 - APS Reporting Line**

#### Wise and Healthy Aging

##### Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Assistance to residents of long-term care facilities with concerns of services/care, safety, rights/dignity, and inappropriate use of chemical or physical restraints. **(800) 334-9473 - Crisis Line**

#### AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline

Confidential service to members and non-members.

Get guidance free of judgment.

**(888) 281-0145—English | (888) 497-4108—Spanish**

### FINANCIAL PLANNING RESOURCES

#### Clarity - [planforclarity.org](https://planforclarity.org)

Free online information and planning tools.

#### Department of Labor (DOL) -

##### Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

**(866) 487-9243 | [dol.gov](https://dol.gov)**

#### National Council on Aging - Benefits Check-up

Online tool to connect older adults to benefits.

[benefitscheckup.org](https://benefitscheckup.org)

#### Social Security Administration (SSA)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) | [ssa.gov](https://ssa.gov)

#### Worklife Law—UCSF Law School

Family caregiving, accessing leave

**(415) 703-8276 | [worklifelaw.org/get-help/](https://worklifelaw.org/get-help/)**

### INFORMATION FOR ADVANCE PLANNING

#### Advance Healthcare Directive

Free to low-cost forms available.

**Coalition for Compassionate Care of California -**

[coalitionccc.org](https://coalitionccc.org)

**Five Wishes - [fivewishes.org](https://fivewishes.org)**

**California Hospital Association -**

[calhospital.org](https://calhospital.org)

**Prepare for Your Care - [prepareforyourcare.org](https://prepareforyourcare.org)**

**State of California Dept of Justice - fillable form**

<https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/>

[ProbateCodeAdvanceHealthCareDirectiveForm-fillable.pdf](https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ProbateCodeAdvanceHealthCareDirectiveForm-fillable.pdf)

#### Planning checklists

##### National Institute on Aging

Get your affairs in order [checklist](#).

**(800) 222-2225**

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/advance-care-planning/getting-your-affairs-order-checklist-documents-prepare-future>

#### Helping Elders Live Productively (HELP)

Legal information for planning

[Help4srs.org](https://help4srs.org)

The [USC VHH Community Resource Center for Aging](#) can help, contact us at **818-949-4033**

[aging-resources@med.usc.edu](mailto:aging-resources@med.usc.edu).

To learn more, visit: [uscvhh.org](https://uscvhh.org)

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**NOTE:** This does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of these agencies, but can be utilized as a convenience in locating services to meet specific needs that an individual or family member may have.

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