



Tuesday, December 10, 2019
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Heffner Hall
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
4882 Lavista Road
Tucker, Georgia 30084

Empowerline Forum Series | In Plain Sight: Elder Protection

8:30 am **Registration and Light Breakfast**

9:00 am **Welcome and Introduction**

Doug Hooker, Executive Director, Atlanta Regional Commission

Keynote

Will Johnson, State Resource Prosecutor: Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation;
Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

False Imprisonment

Jeanne Canavan, Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney,
DeKalb County District Attorney's Office, Elder Exploitation Unit

The Impacts of Exploitation and Abuse

Pat King, Manager, Forensic Special Initiatives Unit,
Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services

Break

10:40 am **Panel Discussion**

Moderator: *Cyndi Burke*, Quality Team Manager, Atlanta Regional Commission

Stephen DeBaun, Attorney at Law Specializing in Elder Law

Stephen Krumm, Director, Senior Citizens Law Project, Atlanta Legal Aid

Cathy Mendelsohn, Communications and Outreach Specialist,
Consumer Protection Division, Georgia Department of Law

Sharee Rines, Training and Policy Team Supervisor, Adult Protective Services,
Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services

11:50 am **Closing Remarks**

Becky Kurtz, Manager, Aging & Independence Services Group, Atlanta Regional Commission



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Cyndi Burke

Cyndi Burke manages the Quality Team at the Atlanta Regional Commission. Her passion is systems change influencing the social, economic, and environmental factors that improve health at the population level and reduce healthcare costs.

Jeanne Canavan

Jeanne Canavan, who has been with the DeKalb County District Attorney's Office for 25 years, created one of the first Elder Exploitation Units in the State of Georgia. Under Ms. Canavan's leadership, the unit has aggressively prosecuted financial crimes against the elderly.

Stephen DeBaun

Stephen DeBaun is an attorney-at-law specializing in elder law; specifically wills, trusts, probates, advance directives, financial powers of attorney, guardianship, conservatorships, incapacity, and administrative law.

Doug Hooker

Doug Hooker leads the Atlanta Regional Commission, the agency which coordinates local government policy and planning for metro Atlanta to enhance the region's economic competitiveness. ARC convenes local government officials, their community partners, and residents to develop strategies for improving the region's quality of life and address challenges brought on by the rapidly emerging future.

Will Johnson

Will Johnson is the State Resource Prosecutor in Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation for the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia, assisting local jurisdictions in complex prosecutions, conducting training and advising on legislation dealing with elder and disabled abuse. He has presented all over the state on elder abuse issues.

Pat King

Pat King is a POST-certified forensic nurse with extensive experience in the investigation and prosecution of cases involving the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults and adults with disabilities. Her specific areas of interest include suspicious deaths of at-risk adults, developing forensic/advocacy centers for at-risk adults, and human trafficking of at-risk adults for monthly benefits.

Stephen Krumm

Stephen Krumm has directed the Senior Citizens Law Project of Atlanta Legal Aid since 1988. He provides legal assistance to the elderly and supervises lawyers in assisting senior citizens on a number of legal matters including government benefits and nursing home care issues.

Becky Kurtz

Becky Kurtz leads the Area Agency on Aging for the 10-county metro Atlanta region within the Atlanta Regional Commission. ARC connects older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers to resources, services, and supports through **empowerline** — and, together with partners, enhances the independence of metro Atlanta's rapidly-growing aging population by providing services, planning, and advocacy.

Cathy Mendelsohn

Cathy Mendelsohn has been the Communications and Outreach Specialist with the Georgia Department of Law's Consumer Protection Division since January 2007. With an extensive background in marketing communications, she is in charge of implementing consumer education efforts.

Sharee Rines

Sharee Rines is the Training and Policy Team Supervisor for Georgia's Division of Aging Services' Adult Protective Services and Public Guardianship Office programs. She has over 14 years' experience working with and on behalf of older adults and adults with disabilities.