

Elder Justice

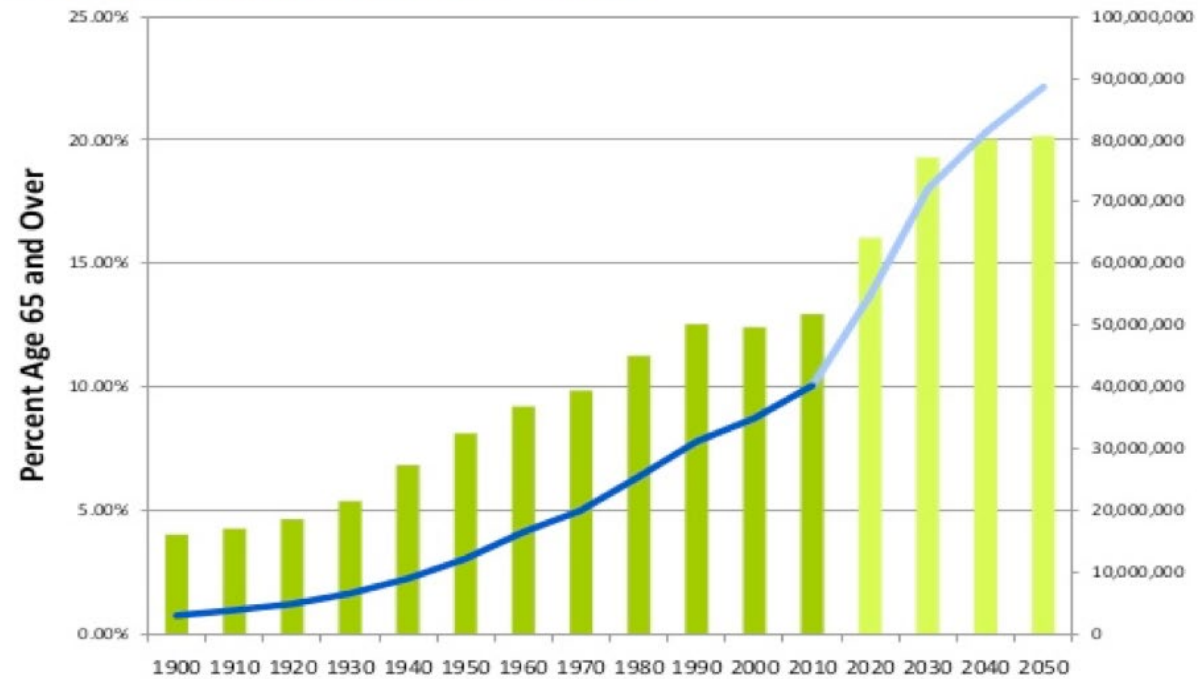
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Section 1: Defining the Problem

2020 VICTIMS BY AGE GROUP

Victims		
Age Range ⁷	Total Count	Total Loss
Under 20	23,186	\$70,980,763
20 - 29	70,791	\$197,402,240
30 - 39	88,364	\$492,176,845
40 - 49	91,568	\$717,161,726
50 - 59	85,967	\$847,948,101
Over 60	105,301	\$966,062,236

U.S. Senior Population 1900 – 2050*



Crime Trends

Over 13% of older Americans are victims of financial fraud every year

Economic loss due to financial fraud is greater among older adults

Why?

- Higher Income

- Liquid assets

- Possible memory loss

- More trusting



Internet Crime Complaints Soared in 2020

467,361

2019

791,790

2020

**Reports to IC3
up 69.4%**



FBI FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

Source: 2020 Internet Crime Report, [ic3.gov](https://www.fbi.gov/2020-ic3-report)

Only 1 in 44 cases of financial abuse is reported.

Section 2: Resources





DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ElderJustice
INITIATIVE





Kentucky Elder Justice

The Kentucky Attorney General's office established the Office of Senior Protection to protect the elderly

Resources include:

- Mediation/Consumer complaint assistance
- Consumer information
- Scam reports and fraud assistance
- Outreach programs
- Referrals

Events/Programs:

- Elder Abuse Awareness Commemoration
- Scam Jam
- Senior Summit



Elder Justice Task Forces

- Northern District of California (San Francisco)
- Northern District of Georgia (Atlanta)
- District of Kansas
- Kentucky
- Northern District of Iowa
- District of Maryland
- Southern District of Ohio (Cincinnati)
- Eastern District of Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh)
- Middle District of Tennessee (Nashville)
- Western District of Washington (Seattle)





Kentucky Elder Justice Task Force

Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky have been asked to form an Elder Justice Task Force, combining state and local resources to combat elder abuse, both financial abuse and neglect.

Major objective: deploy our resources on the ground to assist in protecting our elderly population.





Section 3: Popular Scams and Case Studies

Covid-Related Scams

Increased isolation

Increased stress

Increased dependence

Covid and
Elder Abuse

COVID-19 SCAMS INCLUDE:

TELEPHONE FRAUD



Calls from
'hospital officials'

Requests for
payment to help
relatives

PHISHING



Emails from national
or global health
authorities

Requests for
personal information

Payment requests

Attachments or links
which contain malware



INTERPOL

BE VIGILANT . BE SKEPTICAL . **BE SAFE**

Sweetheart Scams

Romance Scam Indicators

Introduction on dating websites, social networking websites, and chat rooms

Create fake profiles to build online relationships

Typical red flags:

- Met someone new online who they have never met in real life
- Provide a story of a drama-filled life
- Then ask:
 - To send money
 - To send items
 - To move money on their behalf
 - Access to bank accounts
 - To quickly get married

Case Study

- Divorced 72-year-old female living alone
- Met “Tom” online - Mate1.com
- Was a soldier in the army in Syria
- Cascading requests:
 - Small favors such as low-dollar gift cards at first which the victim purchased
 - Then onto electronics for “Tom” that were sent to Nigeria
 - Then access to bank accounts to accept and receive wires
 - Then needed \$75,000.00 to get out of his Army contract so he could come back home and marry the victim
- Victim had to sell her house because of all the debt incurred



Case Study

Result: 3 Convictions

Fafunmi sentenced to 51 months

Ajayi sentenced to 12 months

Health Care Scams

Typical Scenario

Victim receives an email, phone call, mailing, or even responds to a television ad

The perpetrator says you need:

- A new Medicare card
- A new health insurance card
- To act now!

The perpetrator actually wants:

- Your SSN
- Your financial information
- Money

Money Mule Scams



Victims



Money Mule(s)



Criminals

What is a Money Mule?

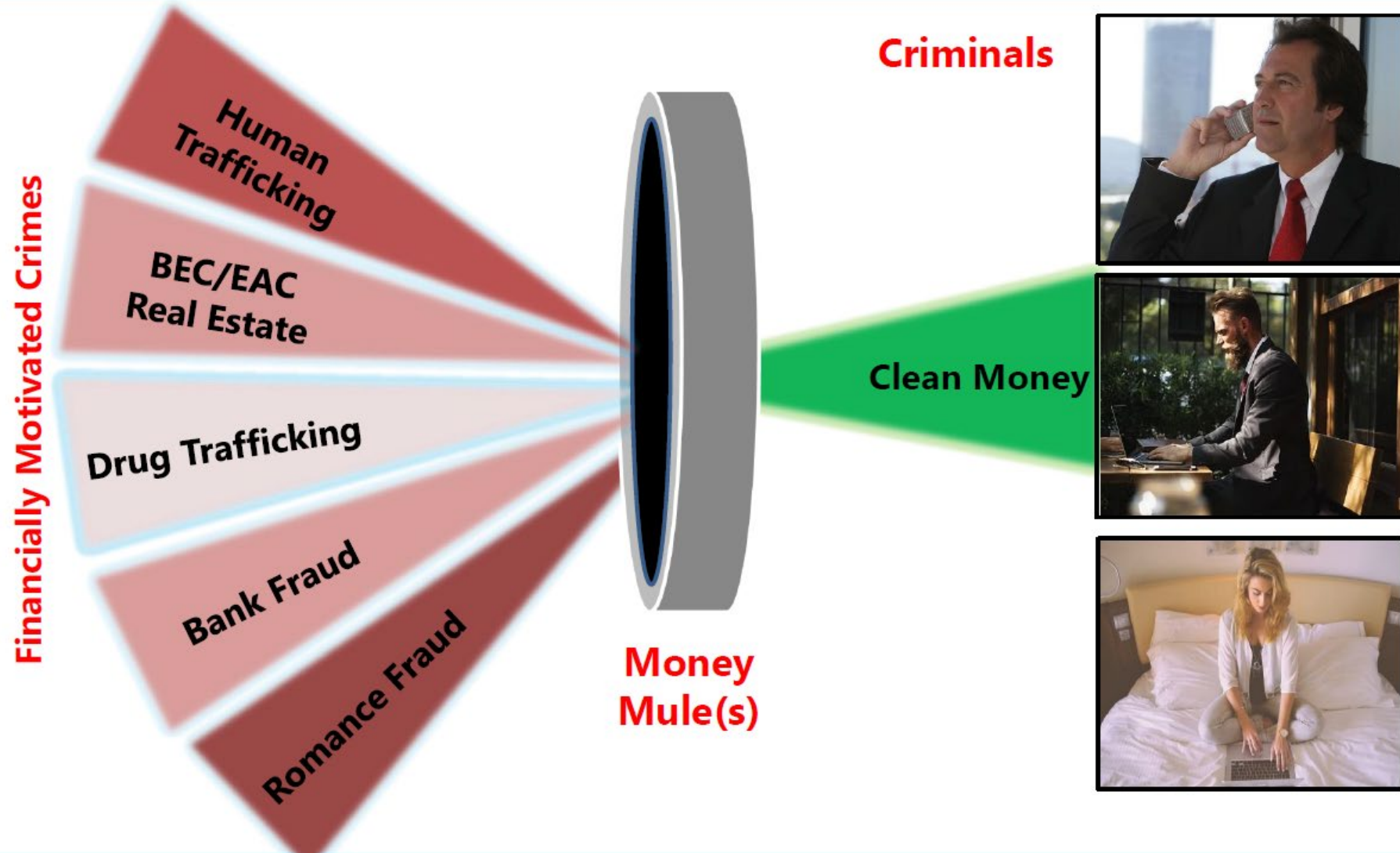
Money Mules move criminal proceeds regardless of, and often operate independently of, the underlying fraud schemes.

Money Mules act as the placement and layering components of the money laundering cycle.

Money is moved via: wire transfer; multiple smaller wire transfers; cashier's check; money service businesses; virtual currency; or any combination.



Money Mule – Role in Money Laundering



Are Money Mules Criminals?

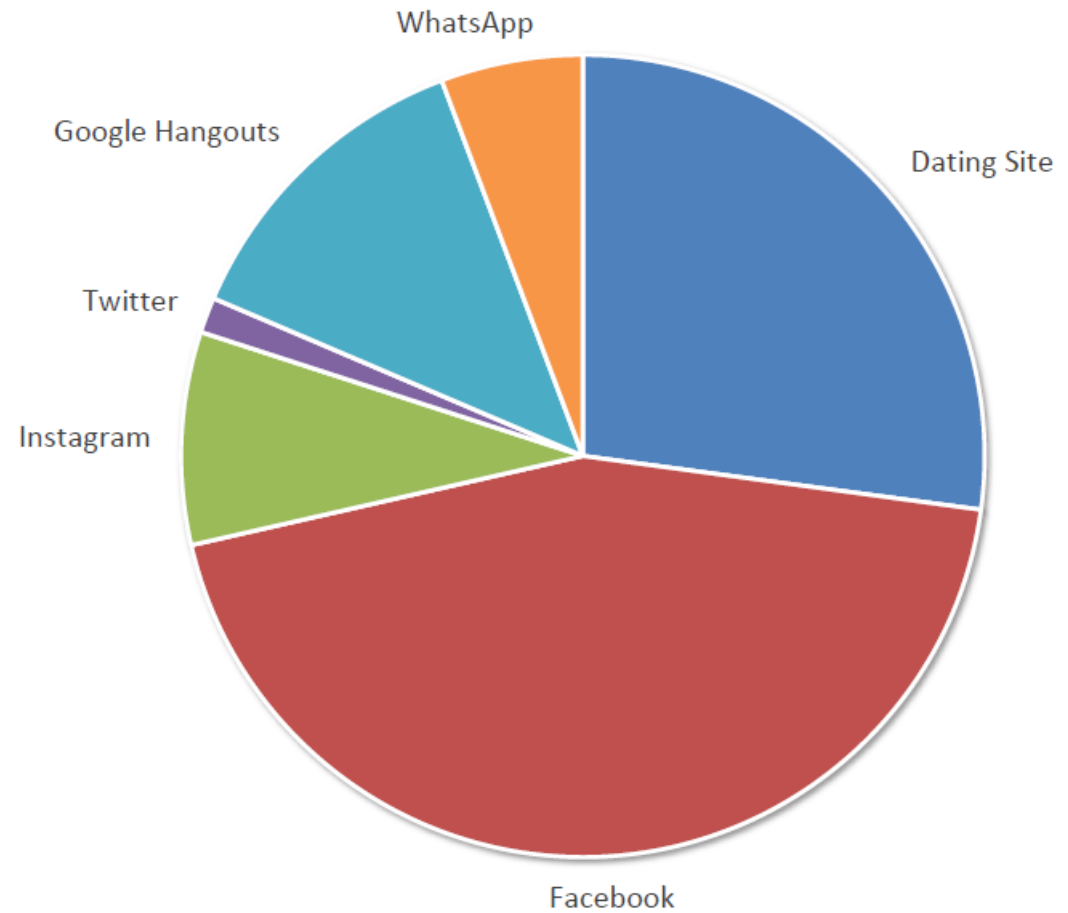
Unwitting

- Mostly romance scam and online job scam victims
- May open bank accounts with different banks in the area in their true name

Witting

- Aggregators
- Funnel Accounts
- Business accounts
- Travel to foreign countries to register and open accounts
- Unwitting mules who gain knowledge during the scam that they are party to a crime**

Communication Platforms





Section 4: What you can do to help

Be Alert

Be alert and suspicious of all transactions involving money or significant changes in a person's behavior

Question Transfers

Never allow a senior citizen to send money to individuals they've never met in person or don't personally know

Ask

Ask close family members for their assistance in identifying fraud

Tell

If you think it may be fraud, tell someone (bank officials, law enforcement)

Family Matters

- The perpetrators of elder financial abuse are often related to the elder: children, children-in-law, and grandchildren
- The perpetrator may be the elder's only caretaker, or the only living family member who still keeps in touch
- Victims in these situations are reluctant to report the abuse, assist law enforcement, or do anything that may get the relative in trouble





U.S. v. John J. O'Hara

Between 2014 to 2018, O'Hara transferred \$300,000 from his mother's accounts to himself. O'Hara failed to fulfil his duties as his mother's POA.

Harm: caused other family members to pay in excess of \$100,000 so that his mother could keep her residence at an assisted living facility
Pleaded guilty to both bank and wire fraud in connection with the misuse of his POA over his mother

Sentenced to 2 years and 2 months in prison



Identify: changes in daily life

Notice unpaid bills, large amounts of junk mail, sizeable withdrawals, or unusual credit card activity

Notice the caregiver or family member not providing care

Changes in personality, demeanor, hygiene, self-care

Unusual new friends and new names on accounts

Unusual changes in a will or beneficiary

Social isolation (abuser will often speak for the victim)

Calls from debt collectors

Home in a state of disrepair

Strange charges on a medical bill



Report



Local
police



State
AG's
office



Federal
agencies



Report Abuse

Type of Crime	Agency with Jurisdiction	Website	Phone number
Identity Theft	Federal Trade Commission	IdentityTheft.org www.ftc.gov	202-326-2222
Internet Crimes	FBI	www.ic3.gov www.fbi.gov	800-225-5324
Tax Scams	Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration	www.treasury.gov/tigta	800-366-4484
Fraud Through the Mail; Mail Theft	U.S. Postal Inspection Service	postalinspectors.uspis.gov	800-275-8777
Social Security Fraud, Misuse	Social Security Administration	oig.ssa.gov	800-269-0271
Someone You Know and Trust	Adult Protective Services	prdweb.chfs.ky.gov	800-752-6200
Veterans Benefits Fraud and Misuse	Dept. of Veterans Affairs	www.va.gov/oig	844-698-2311



Report Abuse

Type of Crime	Agency with Jurisdiction	Website	Phone number
Financial Crimes Against Nursing Home Residents and Medicaid Fraud	Medicaid Fraud Control Unit	chfs.ky.gov	800-372-2970
Investments and Financial Instruments Fraud	Consumer Financial Protection Bureau	www.consumerfinance.gov	855-411-2372
Fraud in Securities	Securities Exchange Commission:	www.sec.gov	877-442-0854
Fraud in Connection with a Financial Advisor	Financial Industry Regulatory Authority	www.FINRA.org	301-590-6500



Local Contacts

Office of the Attorney General: 888-432-9257

Kentucky Adult Protective Services: 800-752-6200

Federal Bureau of Investigation: 502-263-6000

U.S. Secret Service: 502-582-5171

U.S. Postal Inspection Service: 859-261-0809



Fraud Alert

- Place a fraud alert by contacting any of the three credit reporting companies:
 - TransUnion (1-800-680-7289)
 - Experian (1-888-397-3742)
 - Equifax (1-800-525-6285)
- Each is required by law to contact the other two



Questions?