



**CALIFORNIA  
ELDER JUSTICE  
COALITION**

**PROTECT • DEFEND • EMPOWER**

*Promoting policy and practice that improve the lives of vulnerable and abused adults in California.*

## **PRINCIPLES OF ELDER JUSTICE**

1. **The right to live free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation**, which requires heightened awareness, prevention, early detection, holding perpetrators accountable, and providing relief to victims.
2. **Access to the justice system** through affordable legal aid and advocacy, accessible courts, and legal remedies that reflect older victims' special needs and vulnerabilities.
3. **Equity in the allocation of resources for protective services and victims assistance** to reflect the needs of vulnerable people of all ages.
4. **Fair access to resources for all older adults**, which requires countering disparities resulting from bias, exclusion, discrimination, and disadvantage.
5. **Consumer protections and rights**, which requires aggressively pursuing predators who target older people and enforcing laws that protect consumers of long term services and supports, financial products, and housing.
6. **Ensuring the rights of people with cognitive impairments** through support in decision-making and options for surrogate decision-making that offer maximum autonomy, protection, and accountability.
7. **Services for people with disabilities** that promote independence and choice.
8. **Support for family caregivers and direct service workers** that acknowledges their needs and the true value of their contributions.

## CEJC is Advancing Elder Justice Through the Following:

- Providing a voice from the field by:
  - Building partnerships and a statewide coalition.
  - Hosting statewide summits to analyze policy needs and craft solutions.
  - Producing comprehensive plans for ensuring elder justice in California.
  - Updating advocates through a newsletter, policy alerts, and presentations.
- Strengthening adult protective services (APS), including:
  - Successfully advocated for a state APS Liaison to provide guidance, promote coordination among APS entities within California and nationally, and oversee training.
  - Successfully advocated for increasing APS training.
- Expanding assistance to older victims, including:
  - Assisted the California Department of Emergency Services (CALOES) expand multidisciplinary teams, counseling, case management, and legal assistance programs.
  - Provided comprehensive training to CALOES-supported projects.
- Raising policy makers' understanding of elder justice through workshops, brown bag discussion sessions, testimony at hearings, policy briefs, and reports.
- Improving local coordination, including:
  - Spearheaded the design of county protocols for interagency responses to elder abuse.
  - Provided technical assistance in interdisciplinary team building.

## What Can You Do to Promote Elder Justice?

- Join CEJC and be part of our movement! We welcome your passion and perspectives.
- Host a local hearing, workshop, or forum to discuss elder justice and develop action plans using CEJC's publication, *From Blueprint to Benchmarks: Building a Framework for Elder Justice* as a guide.
- Host or participate in Elder Justice Awareness Month events—contact the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging to find out how.
  - Online: [www.c4a.info](http://www.c4a.info)
  - Email: [aging@c4a.info](mailto:aging@c4a.info)
  - Phone: [916-443-2800](tel:916-443-2800)
- Support state and federal legislation that promotes elder justice.

FOR MORE, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.elderjusticecal.org](http://www.elderjusticecal.org)  
OR CONTACT US AT [info@elderjusticecal.org](mailto:info@elderjusticecal.org)