



SHANE MATTINGLY FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY

Approved by Susan M. Smith, Treasurer, Committee to Elect Shane Mattingly

ELDER ABUSE AND FINANCIAL FRAUD UNIT

The targeting of elderly and vulnerable adults is a widespread problem in Southern Maryland. With a growing population of seniors and vulnerable adults, the cases of elder financial abuse will continue to grow sharply. As your next State's Attorney, I will establish an Elder Abuse and Financial Fraud Unit dedicated to the prosecution of these crimes.

According to the Maryland Department of Aging, the geographic distribution of Maryland's "sixty plus" population is very large in St. Mary's County. In fact, 16% or 17,486 persons are living in St Mary's County over the age of sixty. This figure is expected to continue to rise and grow by almost 25% by 2030. This is the highest growth percentage of any county in Maryland.

The Elder Abuse and Financial Fraud Unit will emphasize a community based approach which includes collaborating with law enforcement, meeting with government agencies to develop solutions, meeting with the community to educate the elderly, and dedicating a prosecutor and investigator to handle the cases at both the District and Circuit Court levels.

Under my administration, my staff will travel to various nursing homes, senior clubs, libraries and senior centers throughout the jurisdiction to educate and prevent victimization of the elderly. This is an effort whose time has come. Elderly victims helped build Maryland and they should be treated with the respect they have earned. Our elderly citizens will always have a strong advocate in the State's Attorney's Office.