

802 A

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**FROM:** Dept. of Public Social Services

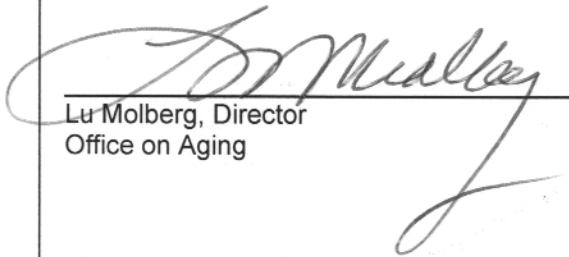
**SUBMITTAL DATE:** April 30, 2003

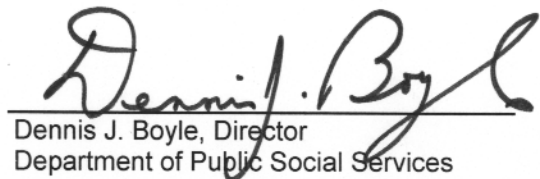
**SUBJECT:** Proclamation - Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors proclaim May, 2003 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.

**BACKGROUND:**

Unfortunately, the prevalence and nature of this growing problem has generally remained hidden from public view. According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, report data findings from the 2000 survey of Adult Protective Services (APS) agencies revealed that APS received more than 472,000 reports of elder and/or dependent abuse or neglect. The most frequent complaints were self-neglect, comprising 39 percent, and neglect by a caregiver, comprising 19 percent. Despite specific laws against elder and dependent adult abuse, incidence of abuse have increased by 150 percent in Riverside County over the past ten years. And, in the past year, there have been over 4,000 reports of abuse of elders and dependent adults.

  
Lu Molberg, Director  
Office on Aging

  
Dennis J. Boyle, Director  
Department of Public Social Services

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

<b>CURRENT YEAR COST</b>	\$N/A	<b>ANNUAL COST:</b>	\$ N/A
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$N/A	<b>IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET:</b>	N/A
		<b>BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FY:</b>	N/A

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** N/A

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE**

County Executive Officer Signature 

Policy

Consent

Department Recommendation:  
Per Executive Office:

Prev. Agn. ref.

Dist.

AGENDA NO.

# PROCLAMATION

## ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, each year hundreds of thousands of older, frail and vulnerable citizens are abused, neglected and exploited by family members and others; and

**WHEREAS**, in Riverside County, Adult Protective Services responded to over 4,000 reports of abuse of elders and dependent adults in the last fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Riverside C.A.R.E. Program (Curtailling Abuse Related to the Elderly) provided advocacy services on 387 cases of consumer fraud, ranging from telemarketing fraud to identity theft, during the same period; and

**WHEREAS**, the incidents of abuse have increased by 150 percent over the last ten years; despite the fact that all 50 states have laws against such abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, whether the abuse is financial, physical, emotional or basic neglect, or whether it is perpetrated by family members or others, our senior citizens and disabled adults have the right to protection under the law.

**WHEREAS**, as the "Baby Boomers" age and the demand for protective services grows, it is imperative that both professionals and laypersons become more aware of the scope and issues surrounding this sensitive topic; and

**WHEREAS**, Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse is an issue that no one should ignore. All citizens, especially our most vulnerable citizens, should be able to live safe, secure lives, without fear, neglect, pain or exploitation.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors that the month of May, 2003 be proclaimed as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.