**GENERAL MEMBER MEETING
9.21.22 via ZOOM**

**Topic:** “**Breaking Up the “Romance/Friendship/Caregiver” Scam**”

**Guest Speakers:** *Debbie Deem* – Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) Coordinator, Ventura County, CA

*Heather Magill* – Elder Justice Specialist Coordinator, Guilford Co. Family Justice Center

*Stuart (Jeb) Saunders*, Special Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, NC Attorney General’s Office

**TOTAL:** 95 ATTENDEES

**PRESENT.** (Board) Kevin Robertson, Jessica Bullock, Nancy Warren, Ann Elmore, Tadra Martin, John Maron, Stephanie Bias, Laura Schlabach, Autumn Cox and Allison Crossman. (Members) Adriene Carmichael, Adrienne Thompson, Alishia Holloway, Alison Garrett, Alissa Andrews-Brown, Anna Beane, April Black, Autumn Keever, Barbie Medlin, Breana Williams, Camilie Smith, Candace Harrelson, Carmen Anderson, Chistopher Alfano, Claudia Davis, Consuelo Washington, Crystal Patterson, Debbie Deem, Debra Cardone, Dendra Marcus, Denise Fulmore, Dontay Woolard, Donza McLean, Edwin Bass, Elaine Brown, Emily Johnson, Heather Magill, Ingrid Farrar, Isaiah Little, Jacob Doster, Jamie Shepherd, Jeffrey Brunsink, Jennifer Stuart, Jerry Ufot, Joel Vega, Karen McElveen, Katie Sprayberry, Katina Jacobs, Kim McElrath-Ray, Krystal Singleton, LaGail McCormick, Lateefah Martin, Latesha Waltman, Lisa Henry, Lisa Jones, Lynn Helton, Martha Clark, Melakne Stimpson, Melonie Strickland, Misty Piekaar-McWilliams, Mollie Williams, Pamela Nelms, Patty Etheridge, Porsha Washington, Rik Covalinski, Robert Lee, Robert Locklear, Rosalyn Pettyford, Sarah Holland, Sergio Falconi, Shari Pilkenton, Shelley Caldwell, Shelley Hodges, Shenyetta Graham, Stacey Holden, Stacy Ferrell, Stuart (Jeb) Saunders, Tara Gilchrist, Tasha Kea-Glenn, Teddi Stepp, Tempestt Owens, Teresa Hargett, Teshia Cruz, Tiana Green, Timothy Moss, Tomesia Hawkins, Twyla Page, Vanessa Durrett, Vicky Stokes, Wanda Pham, Zachary O’Halloran, (Phone # unrecognized was Jessica Bullock),

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Nancy Warren recently was commissioned as a Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Laura S. and Autumn switched roles on the Executive Board. Laura will be resuming the Secretary role and Autumn will be taking over the Treasurer Role for the NCPAAA.

**CALL TO ORDER**. Our meeting was called to order by Kevin Robertson, Chair.

This meeting was hosted via ZOOM, scheduled by Allison Crossman. We are thankful for her help setting up this virtual meeting and posting the meeting agenda for us.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.** The minutes from the general meeting held July 7, 2022 were presented for approval. A motion to approve was made by John Maron and seconded by Ann Elmore. With no further discussion the motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT.** Autumn Cox presented the treasurer’s report and budget estimate for the upcoming year. A motion to approve was made by John Maron and seconded by Ann Elmore. With no further discussion the motion carried.

**HEATHER MAGILL, Elder Justice Specialist Coordinator, Guilford Co. Family Justice Center**

* Heather presented on ways the Guilford County Family Justice Center is working with a variety of professions to network and collaborate ways to provide services to victims of fraud and exploitation
* Most victims do have capacity, so APS cannot intervene
* She shared a recent success story where a victim approached them. She had been the target of an international scam
* Heather and a detective offered free counseling, which included a safety plan

**DEBBIE DEEM, Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) Coordinator, Ventura County, CA**

* Debbie shared her experiences overall regarding victims of financial fraud/schemes
* Federal legislation/resources that are helpful
* How are the victims found and why are federal databases so important?
* Debbie shared an audio recording of a victim’s interview with an FBI Agent re: her experience as a victim of a romance scam who lost over 2 million dollars
* Debbie’s biggest take away message was that a one-time intervention will NOT work or be successful
* She provided statistics and resources for those on the webinar
* Debbie also shared a video regarding an 81-year-old victim of a “money mule” or “money mover”

**JEB SAUNDERS,** Special Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, NC Attorney General’s Office

* Jeb shared local statistics in NC re: romance/friendship scam victims, demonstrating a huge jump in losses starting in 2018
* Common scam themes include romance/friendship/relationship scams, Government scams, Grandparent scams
* He reviewed ways money is transmitted from the victim to the scammer: gift cards, bank-to-bank wires, regular mail/cashier’s checks
* Jeb also shared that most often, once older adults are victims once, they are at higher probability for becoming another victim of a different scam
* He encourages anyone who meets victims of financial exploitation to contact his office as a resource

**NCPAAA COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

 **Education -** Ann Elmore/Tadra Martin, Co-Chairs

* Tadra shared the next meeting’s presentation will be regarding the effects of social isolation on older adults, presented by a psychologist.
* Ann shared next May’s conference will hopefully be hybrid, so that folks locally would be able to connect, but folks who can not travel also have the option to attend. In order to do this, we need a firm date in place, so that the Partnership can make arrangement to move forward with this plan. Ann requested that attendees share dates in the chat if we know of anyone knows of other educational or networking opportunities that might conflict with potential dates in May 2023. She also requested recommendations for speakers. Ann provided her email address aelmore@sosnc.gov and Tadra tadra.martin@disabilityrightsnc.org so that folks can email her after the meeting, if needed.
* (*Heather Magill shared that May 9 -11, 2023 will be the National Family Justice Conference*)

 **Advocacy -** Nancy Warren, Chair

* Nancy shared the NAPSA Training Center website has free standardized trainings available via e-learnings, which is a great resource for anyone who might be interested.
* The Elder Justice Coalition and NAPSA are both great resources, if anyone might be interested in receiving their emails.
* Nancy also shared updates re: the former “Build Back Better Act”
* Nancy also shared updates re: the NAPSA Conference in Grand Rapids, presented in several workshops and network with other APS professionals

 **Awareness -** John Maron/Stephanie Bias, Co-Chairs

* John encouraged folks to join the Partnership because we could link other events to the Partnership’s “Google Events” calendar
* John shared that October is a busy month with Scam Jams coming up, the Age My Way Summit, the Duke Caregiver Event, and Senior Day at the NC State Fair
* Stephanie shared Kevin will be representing SMP and The Partnership at a county fair soon
* She shared she was also recently at the Wilmington Dept. of Public Health. She is also excited to be a part of the planning process for next year’s scam jam events

 **Communications -** Allison Crossman, Co-Chair

* Allison shared that on the ncp3a.org website, there is already a registration link for our next meeting on 11/16/22 re: Social Isolation. The meetings tab will have all the speaker presentations as well as the recording from today’s meeting. She is currently working on a few projects that she hopes to present soon

 **Membership**

* John Maron noted that member benefits include listing your organization’s events on the Partnership’s calendar

*Thank you for all that you do to assist others each day.*

Our next NCPAAA General Meeting will be on **Wednesday, November 16, 2022**.

Please save the date on your calendar and make plans to join us!

With no further business to discuss, Kevin adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by

Laura Schlabach, Secretary