Thursday, April 4th

7:30 am – 8:30 am  Registration

8:30 am – 9:00 am  General Session
Welcome and Introductions
Kimberly N. Overton, Chief Resource Prosecutor
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys
Benjamin David, District Attorney
Prosecutorial District 5
Dennis W. Streets, MPH, MAT, LNHA
Director, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
Elaine Marshall, Secretary of State
Department of the Secretary of State
Mark J. Strickland, Director
North Carolina Justice Academy
Christopher May, Executive Director,
Cape Fear Council of Governments

9:00 am – 10:30 am  General Session
Overcoming Barriers in the Investigation and Prosecution of Elder Abuse Cases
Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney
San Diego District Attorney’s Office

Deputy District Attorney Greenwood will draw upon his seventeen years experience of prosecuting felony elder abuse cases to debunk some well-established misconceptions about dealing with elderly victims. He will highlight some classic responses that often cause investigations to be closed prematurely without a referral for prosecution.

10:30 am – 10:45 am  BREAK

10:45 am – 12:00 pm  General Session
Investigating and Prosecuting Elder Investment Fraud
John C. Curry, Special Agent in Charge
NC Department of the Secretary of State, Securities Division
Zesely Bryan Haislip, Jr., Senior Enforcement Attorney
NC Department of the Secretary of State, Securities Division

Securities fraud costs investors between $20 - $50 Billion annually. This presentation will focus on the successful investigation and prosecution of securities fraud schemes which target elder investors.

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  General Session
Legal Update and Elder Abuse Trends
Maureen Krueger, District Attorney
Prosecutorial District 19D
Jeff Haynes, Chief Deputy
Haywood County Sheriff’s Office

This section explores the dynamics of our aging population. We will review trends in aging and victimization of elderly or disabled persons.

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm  LUNCH

2:15 pm – 3:45 pm  Concurrent Sessions
Forensic Accounting: A Case Study
Donna James, Senior Special Agent
United States Secret Service

The presentation will be case studies involving investigative techniques used to obtain evidence and identify the perpetrators committing identity theft involving the elderly. The presentation will give examples of actual cases and how the investigation progressed.
Successful Investigation and Prosecution Practices
Sybil Mann, Assistant District Attorney
Prosecutorial District 30
Jeff Haynes, Chief Deputy
Haywood County Sheriff’s Office
Dr. Anita Blowers
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

This session will examine clear and concise direction for those involved in the cases of elder abuse. An overview from first responder to prosecution will be examined as we look at barriers, both legal and physical that could potentially hinder or slow an investigation. The challenges facing successful prosecution and the methods and techniques needed to combat and avoid potential pitfalls in both areas will be discussed.

Working Together: The Life of an APS Report
Susie Sprenger, Adult Services Supervisor
New Hanover County Department of Social Services
Wanda Marino, Assistant Director of Social Work Services
New Hanover County Department of Social Services
Janet Coleman, Assistant District Attorney
Prosecutorial District 5
Sharon Allford, Victim Witness Legal Assistant
Prosecutorial District 13
Major Duane Ward
New Hanover County Sheriff's Office
Captain Clarence Hayes
New Hanover County Sheriff's Office

It’s 0600 hours and a LEO is dispatched to a sexual assault of an eighty-six year-old female. As the officer arrives on scene to begin the initial investigation, the officer’s training and experience takes over and proper procedures are followed. The victim is interviewed, witnesses are interviewed, and crime scene evidence is properly collected. What happens next? What procedures and protocols are in place to ensure this victim, who has just been traumatized by a sexual assault, is not re-victimized by the criminal justice system? The criminal justice system, whose members have a sworn oath to protect and serve this victim, has a duty “to get this right.”

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm BREAK

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

Undue Influence and Consent: Elder Abuse Issues Related to Powers of Attorney and Other Estate Planning Documents
Anthony Nicholson, Elder Law Attorney, Durham
McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson & Nordgren, PLLC
Doug Thoren, Special Deputy Attorney General
Chief – Criminal Unit, Medicaid Investigations Division
North Carolina Department of Justice

Financial exploitation of the elderly often takes the form of undue influence by family members or caretakers. Sometimes the exploitation involves estate planning documents like wills and powers of attorney. This presentation will covers the details of undue influence and how elder abuse arises in the context of powers of attorney and other estate planning documents. The second part of this presentation will explore how these documents fit into a successful undue influence prosecution under N.C.G.S. § 14-112.2.

Current and Recurring Investment Schemes and Financial Fraud Trends of the Future (Part I, 45 mins.)
Allan C.J. Russ
Deputy Director and Senior Enforcement Attorney
NC Department of the Secretary of State Securities Division

Scams are generally perpetrated by unregistered persons. There are popular vehicles for conducting the scam that have a proven track record in attracting investors. Find out what these popular schemes are so that you can be aware of the questions you should be asking when evaluating such an investment opportunity. Find out what the anticipated future scams might be and what makes them attractive for both scammers and investors.

Combating Frauds Against the Elderly: A Partnership Working Together(Part II, 45 mins.)
John Maron, Director
Investor Education Program
NC Department of the Secretary of State Securities Division

Don't think you can become a victim of investment fraud? Neither did the nearly 500 people who trusted J.V. Huffman, Jr., of Conover, NC, with approximately $25 million of their money! The elderly are the Number One target of securities fraud. Why? What is securities fraud and what can be done to protect oneself and the elderly from falling victim to investment fraud? This presentation will explain securities fraud, common scams, what protections exist and how to avoid becoming a victim.
A Medical Examiner/Forensic Pathologist Approach to Elder Abuse and Neglect
Dr. Deborah Radisch, Chief Medical Examiner
Office of the Medical Examiner
Dr. Marsha Fretwell, Geriatrician
Medical Director for PACE/Elderhaus

The abuse and neglect of the aging population provides obvious physical signs...or does it? This section will discuss signs, both hidden and obvious, of elder abuse and neglect.

Friday, April 5th

7:00 am – 8:00 am  Breakfast

8:00 am – 9:30 am  Concurrent Sessions
    When Your Victim Has Dementia, Cognitive, Physical, Family and Special Issues
    Melanie Bunn, RN, MS, Dementia Training Specialist
    Alzheimers North Carolina

The problems and risks are clear. People with dementia are at high risk for being abused by those closest to them and struggle to provide you with the information you need to help and protect them. This session will offer you evidence-based interaction skills that will optimize your ability to communicate with the person with dementia and caregivers. While these approaches don’t repair the structural brain damage caused by dementia and can’t return the person to previous levels of function, they will help you use the individual’s preserved abilities to obtain as much accurate and useable information as possible.

Fraud, Vulnerability and Aging: Case Studies
Dave Kirkman, Special Deputy Attorney General
Consumer Protection Division
Department of Justice
Dr. Tom Kaluzynski, MD, FACP
MemoryCare, Inc., Asheville, NC

A geriatrician and a fraud prosecutor will discuss the vulnerabilities that make older consumers major targets of a large global fraud industry. Using examples from their own case files, the presenters will describe how victims are spotted, profiled and subjected repeatedly to scams that are tailored to their particular vulnerabilities. Recent fraud trends will be analyzed, as will the latest scientific research into age-related cognitive decline and its effects on financial competency and one’s ability to avoid scams.

Improving Investigation of Elder Physical and Sexual Abuse
Patty Levins, Criminalist
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department
Crime Laboratory

Forensic investigation of abuse in elders is anything but basic. Key to these investigations is asking the right questions and looking in new places for probative physical evidence. The use of the elements of the N.C. Statutes as a guide to investigation and location of evidence will also be addressed.

9:30 am – 9:45 am  BREAK

9:45 am – 10:45 am  Concurrent Sessions
    Elder Homicide Investigation
    Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney
    San Diego District Attorney’s Office

Deputy District Attorney Greenwood will highlight concerns about how some elder deaths are misinterpreted as "natural." He will provide case studies and offer practical tips for recognizing suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of an elder. He will also advocate for the creation of elder death review teams.

Prosecution of Crimes Committed in Long Term Care: The Critical Role of District Attorneys
Kathryn Lanier, MS Gerontology, Chief of Elder Rights and Special Initiatives
NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
E. Lorraine Snyder, Criminal Justice Training Coordinator
NC Justice Academy, North Carolina Department of Justice
Doug Thoren, Special Deputy Attorney General
Chief – Criminal Unit, Medicaid Investigations Division
North Carolina Department of Justice

This session will include a broad overview of long-term care facilities, residents and the crimes committed within these various types of residential living settings. It will highlight laws frequently overlooked specific to health care service provision that would have a significant impact on the prosecution of perpetrators if uniformly enforced. This workshop will also describe organizations and steps taken to address these complex issues through collaborative partnerships, trainings, and public awareness activities.
The North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State, North Carolina District Attorney’s Offices and United States Attorney’s Offices each strive to stop fraud committed against elders and to punish those individuals perpetuating elder fraud. This presentation will discuss ways in which the three agencies can work together towards the successful prosecution of these crimes.

10:45 am – 11:00 am  **BREAK**

11:00 am – 12:00 pm  **Concurrent Sessions**

Is Susan Douglas a victim of a criminal act or just a victim of circumstances? Is Paul a criminal who took advantage of Susan in her declining state or an angel who cared for a woman when her own children abandoned her? Is Janet a knowing accomplice or an innocent bystander? Each professional group will discuss this case scenario and analyze the issues from their professional perspective.

**Case Scenario: Prosecutors and Victim Witness Legal Assistants**
Kimberly N. Overton, Chief Resource Prosecutor
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys
Megan Lively, Resource Victim Witness Legal Assistant
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys

**Case Scenario: Law Enforcement and First Responders**
Jeff Haynes, Chief Deputy
Haywood County Sheriff’s Office

**Case Scenario: Adult Protective Services**
Nancy Warren, Program Administrator
NC DHHS, Division of Aging and Adult Services
LeShana Baldwin, Guardianship Coordinator
NC DHHS, Division of Aging and Adult Services

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  **LUNCH**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm  **General Session**

So what do you think? Is Susan Douglas a victim of a criminal act or just a victim of circumstances? Together we will look at the case scenario and analyze the issues from each professional perspective.

**Case Scenario: A Multidisciplinary Discussion**
Kimberly N. Overton, Chief Resource Prosecutor
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys
Megan Lively, Resource Victim Witness Legal Assistant
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys
Jeff Haynes, Chief Deputy
Haywood County Sheriff’s Office
Nancy Warren Program Administrator
NC DHHS, Division of Aging and Adult Services

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm  **BREAK**

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm  **General Session**

**Combating Elder Abuse: A Team Building Approach**
Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney
San Diego District Attorney

Deputy District Attorney Greenwood will present examples of how successful elder abuse initiatives develop coordinated community responses. He will call for creative team building and will identify areas of collaboration between various agencies that will enhance the quality of elder abuse investigations and ultimately prosecutions.

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm  **Closing**
Kimberly N. Overton, Chief Resource Prosecutor
North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys