



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Elder Financial Abuse**

The elderly are all too often targets of financial abuse. It's important for all customers to be aware of this very real issue and learn about ways to help prevent elder financial abuse from happening to themselves or their loved ones. If you have questions or concerns about the safety and security of your finances, you should speak to one of our universal bankers.

Independent Community Bankers Association, Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation and First National Bank Minnesota offer the following suggestions on ways to prevent elder financial abuse:

- Secure all of your valuables in a bank safety deposit box. These valuables can include your Social Security card, passports, credit card account numbers, will and other legal documents, financial statements and medical records.
- Do not give financial information to callers that contact you and claim to be from established organizations such as your bank or credit card companies, especially if they ask you to wire funds or send them private information. If you are concerned about your bank account, contact First National Bank Minnesota directly.
- Check your bank accounts and bill statements carefully. You can check them online. For easier reading, you can zoom in to make the statement larger. If you notice unauthorized charges, alert First National Bank Minnesota immediately.
- Do not give your personal information, such as bank account numbers or PINs, to anyone in a phone call, letter, email, fax or in a text message.
- Have enough money set aside to support yourself and your immediate family for at least six months in case of an emergency. First National Bank Minnesota can help create a financial roadmap for you and your family.

Elder financial abuse is a rapidly growing problem. We are dedicated to providing educational resources to help our area seniors and their family members on ways to protect themselves against financial exploitation.