New Free Tools Available for Law Enforcement Officials

With funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging has produced two new publications on legal issues related to elder abuse:

Pocket Guide
Provides brief explanations of:
• legal concepts, documents, and tools that may be misused to commit elder abuse or used properly to remedy it, and
• issues and actions that justice system professionals should consider if they suspect elder abuse has occurred.

Desk Guide
Provides more information about each of the topics covered in the Pocket Guide (see reverse), as well as:
• tips for communicating with older individuals,
• the differences between civil and criminal courts,
• entities that may be involved with elder abuse victims or perpetrators, and
• additional resources.

Information about ordering the Pocket Guide and the Desk Guide can be found online at: www.ambar.org/ElderAbuseGuides.
“My colleagues and I need to know that when we’re told ‘I could spend dad’s money because I have his power of attorney’ we shouldn’t just say ‘Oh, OK’ and walk out.”

—Dale Gillette, Lt. (ret.), Ross County Ohio Sheriff’s Office and Triad Coordinator Pickaway County, Ohio Sheriff’s Office

The *Pocket Guide* covers:

**Background Information**
- Types of Elder Abuse
- Abusers & Risk Factors
- Consent, Capacity, & Undue Influence

**Legal Documents and Tools**
- Deeds & Life Estates
- Guardians/Conservators
- Health Care Advance Directives
- Joint Owners/Joint Accounts
- Medicaid Planning
- Adult Protective Services & Mandatory Reporting
- Considerations for Community Corrections
- Nursing Homes & Assisted Living
- Powers of Attorney
- Representative Payees & VA Fiduciaries
- Reverse Mortgages
- Trusts
- Wills