

Office Sleuth: These are the volunteers who work directly in a Seniors vs Crime Project Office and handle complaints from the public. Sleuths make all of their citizen contacts from the SVC office. No investigations are completed outside of the confines of the office.

Speakers Bureau: These volunteers are comfortable with public speaking and give presentations on SVC topics, including Identity Theft and Scams and Cons.

Florida Seniors Against Investment Fraud (FSAIF): These volunteers are trained to give a specific presentation to seniors on how to recognize and avoid investment fraud. Prior interest in financial markets is beneficial, but not required.

Office Assistant: These volunteers work in Project Offices, but do not handle actual complaints. Instead, they perform research, data entry, and other clerical tasks.

No set number of hours per week is expected. As a volunteer, you set your own work schedule.

If you are interested in volunteering with SVC, click on the Volunteer tab on the SVC website and fill out the online form.

Alternatively, you may request a paper application be sent to you by postal mail by calling SVC at 800-203-3099.



CONTACT Us:

9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCIES

352-955-1818 FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

ACSO Important Phone Numbers

ACSO Main Administration	352.367.4000
Crime Prevention Unit	352.374.1800
Crime Stoppers & Gun Bounty	352.372.7867
Dept. of the Jail	352.491.4444
Evidence Section	352.367-4076
Human Resources	352.367.4040
Narcotics Tip Line	352.374.1849
Patrol	352.367.4101
Public Information	352.367.4050
Property Unit	352.367.4078
Records Bureau	352.367.4006
Victim Advocate Unit	352.367.4193



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Sheriff Chad D. Scott

P.O. Box 5489, Gainesville, FL 32627
2621 SE Hawthorne Road, Gainesville, FL 32641
<https://www.acso.us>



ACSO 2025

ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SENIORS VS CRIME

WHAT IS SENIORS VS CRIME?

Seniors vs Crime (SVC) is a non-profit organization operating as a Special Project of the Florida Attorney General's Office. Their goal is to reduce the victimization of senior citizens who are often targeted by thieves, scammers, and con artists because of their age and/or perceived vulnerability.

Over 2,000 volunteers work for SVC in locations statewide. These 'Senior Sleuths' provide educational and crime prevention programs to local senior citizen's groups as well as investigating civil complaints and seeking restitution for victims.

When a case investigation turns up evidence of a criminal act, Senior Sleuths will refer that case to the appropriate law enforcement agency for follow up investigation and criminal prosecution.

SENIORS VS CRIME HISTORY

In 1989, the Florida Legislature tasked the Attorney General with investigating crime among Florida's elderly population. AG Butterworth established a Task Force on Crimes and the Elderly. The Task Force conducted surveys of seniors statewide to learn more about the type and number of scams targeting elderly citizens. Seniors were recruited to help with the survey and data collection.



Recognizing the importance of having senior citizens partner with the Attorney General's Office, AG Butterworth, along with Vern Thornton, established a civilian crime prevention program that would not only offer crime prevention seminars for seniors, but also provide training for criminal justice professionals to aid them in understanding seniors and the unique crimes perpetrated upon them.

Eventually, the role of SVC volunteers changed to include working more actively with law enforcement. Now, Senior Sleuths act as the eyes and ears of the Attorney General by reporting on scams targeting seniors.

Now, there are 44 SVC Project Offices located near or within the confines of the local police department or sheriff's office. Some Project Offices are even located in Senior Centers. Senior Sleuths handle thousands of cases every year. Since the opening of the first Project Office in Delray Beach in 2001, the Seniors vs Crime project has handled more than 39,000 cases and recovered over \$28,000,000 in real dollars and realized gain for Florida seniors.

REQUESTING SERVICES

To file a civil complaint with an SVC Project Office, go to the Seniors vs Crime website at <http://www.seniorsvscrime.com/>. On the row of blue tabs across the top of the page, select the one that says "ONLINE COMPLAINT." This will take you to the SVC Communications Center where you will be asked to fill out an online civil complaint intake form. The Communications Center also has resources to help you if you



believe you have been the victim of Identity Theft, an IRS scam, or other scam. Just follow the tabs to the appropriate resource.

If you would like to request an SVC speaker to address a group or organization, please contact Seniors vs Crime at 1-800-203-3099. Alternatively, you may contact your local Project Office. In Alachua County, that office is located in the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and can be reached at (352) 367-4023. Their email address is alachua@svcproject.org.

WANT TO BE A SENIOR SLEUTH?

An applicant's former or current occupation and physical condition is irrelevant. However, there are four requirements to be a volunteer for Seniors vs. Crime. An applicant must:

1. Be age 50 or older, though some younger applicants are considered.
2. Have a genuine desire to help others.
3. Not have any criminal history.
4. Agree to maintain confidentiality for clients and fellow Sleuths.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Senior Sleuths may volunteer for a variety of positions within the Project.

Eyes and Ears Sleuth: These are volunteers who do not wish to volunteer on a weekly basis, but serve by reporting potential scams, high pressure sales tactics, or other unfair business practices.

