

OMBUDS BULLETIN

I'm a bud, you're a bud, we're Ombuds!

June 2025

A MONTHLY BULLETIN PUBLISHED THROUGH THE LOUISIANA LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – June 15, 2025

Respect. Dignity. Action. On June 15, we honor World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. It's a reminder to raise our voices against abuse, neglect, and exploitation, especially in long-term care settings.

Wear purple and help spread awareness. Our presence matters. Our advocacy makes a difference.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) See link to article: Honey, Sweetie, Dearie: The Perils of Elderspeak www.nytimes.com/2025/05/03/health/elderly-treatment-aides.html

Upcoming Events

Coffee & Cases:

First Monday of the month, 9:30-11:00am

- **June 2** – NOAGE, Jim Meadows
- **July 7** – Open Discussion
- **August 4** – Save the date

Ombudsman Refresher: Sexual Rights & Consent

Gaby Serpas, volunteer ombud, said "May's Coffee & Cases raised thoughtful questions about intimacy, consent, and resident rights." Gaby shared with us regulations which affirm:

- ✓ Autonomy is key—even when choices carry risk
- ✓ Consent must be assessed, not assumed
- ✓ LGBTQ+ relationships are valid and protected
- ✓ Boundaries and documentation matter

"Dementia does not equal no consent." – Gaby Serpas

Let's keep this vital conversation going.

NOAGE & Pride Month: Visibility Matters

This June, we celebrate Pride Month and uplift the work of NOAGE (New Orleans Advocates for GLBT Elders). All residents deserve to feel safe, respected, and affirmed—regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Join us June 2nd for Coffee & Cases with Jim Meadows, MSW, Executive Director of NOAGE.

Surveyor Guidance Updates: What to Know

A Note from Tanya Hayes, Ombudsman Coordinator/Supervisor, Capital AAA:

At our last Coffee & Cases, we discussed updates in the Guidance for Surveyors, especially around Transfers and Discharges. But there's more:

- Staffing
- Third-party guarantees
- Overuse of psychotropics

Download the revised Surveyor Manual and review updates in red print for quick reference.

Listen: <https://theconsumervoice.org/news/recent-updates-to-federal-nursing-home-surveyor-guidance/>

AARP Challenge

Myth or Fact?

- Social Security is going broke
- Members of Congress don't pay into Social Security
- Undocumented immigrants drain Social Security

For answers to these and other myths:
[AARP Social Security Myths](https://www.aarp.org/social-security/myths/)

Submit any questions, suggestions, or case examples you'd like to share to the State Office at StateOmbudsman@la.gov.