TNEJC WEEKLY UPDATE

National elder-justice developments. Tennessee-ready prevention and response.

PROFESSIONAL EDITION | NOVEMBER 16, 2026

THIS WEEK'S ACTION

If a caller says to move money to protect it, hang up and call your bank using a number you already trust.

DON'T MOVE MONEY TO "PROTECT" IT.

FEDERAL SENTENCING | NOVEMBER 13

A warning on your screen is not proof.

A federal judge sentenced Jiandong Chen to 78 months in prison for his role in a multinational fraud and money-laundering conspiracy. The U.S. Attorney's Office said investigators identified more than 2,000 older victims and over $27 million in losses across the broader scheme. Chen admitted that more than $9.5 million in victim losses occurred during his participation.

An unsolicited pop-up, email or call steered people to fake tech support. Criminals then impersonated banks or government agencies, or claimed a refund had gone wrong. Their goal was to make sending cash or moving money sound like the safest response.

Tennessee takeaway: If someone says to withdraw cash, send a package or move money to keep it safe, end the conversation. Call your bank using the number on your card or statement. If a stranger had remote access, stop using that device for banking until a trusted technician checks it.

Official release: https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdca/pr/chinese-national-viral-youtube-video-sentenced-6-12-years-27-million-multinational

MEDICARE ENFORCEMENT | GUILTY PLEA | NOVEMBER 13

Check for braces or tests you did not request.

Federal prosecutors announced that Chad Monroe of Florida pleaded guilty in a $42 million Medicare fraud scheme involving unnecessary medical equipment and cancer genetic testing. The guilty plea is not a sentencing.

Unwanted braces or testing can generate bills even when no one needs the item or service. A caller offering something at no cost is not a reason to share your Medicare number.

Review your Medicare Summary Notice or plan explanation of benefits. Ask the provider about an unfamiliar item using an independently verified number. If you suspect fraud, call Tennessee Senior Medicare Patrol at 1-866-836-7677.

Official release: https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/florida-man-pleads-guilty-42m-durable-medical-equipment-and-cancer-genetic-testing-fraud

FOR TENNESSEE PARTNERS

If a customer is on the phone while withdrawing cash, offer a private pause. Ask whether anyone told them to keep the transaction secret or move money somewhere "safe."

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TENNESSEE | FENTRESS COUNTY | PENDING CHARGES | NOVEMBER 6

Neglect can go unseen when one person controls care.

TBI announced that two caregivers were indicted for first-degree murder and aggravated neglect of a vulnerable adult in the 2024 death of Andrew Willis, 35, who had developmental disabilities. TBI alleges they failed to provide adequate food and care. One also faces TennCare fraud and a computer offense. These are allegations; both are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

Caregiver neglect can affect adults at any age. Watch for unmet needs: repeated missed meals, inadequate medication support, untreated injuries or unusual weight loss. A warning sign is not proof.

Ask privately and respectfully, if safe, what help the person wants or needs. Report suspected abuse or neglect to Tennessee Adult Protective Services at 1-888-277-8366. Call 911 for immediate danger.

Official release: https://tbinewsroom.com/2026/11/06/caregivers-indicted-in-death-of-vulnerable-adult-2/

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT | COMPARE THE COVERAGE. NOT JUST THE EXTRAS.

Open Enrollment ends December 7. Compare doctors, hospitals, pharmacies and prescriptions; premiums, deductibles, copays and out-of-pocket limits; networks, prior approvals, eligibility and limits on supplemental benefits. Ask about Medigap restrictions before switching. Free, unbiased TN SHIP: 1-877-801-0044.

Medicare and Tennessee counseling: https://www.medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/open-enrollment | https://tnmedicarehelp.com/

IF MONEY OR INFORMATION WAS ALREADY SENT

Call your bank or payment provider immediately and ask whether it can stop the transaction. If cash was shipped, contact the carrier and law enforcement immediately. Save messages, receipts and tracking numbers. Report internet crime at IC3.gov and suspected vulnerable-adult abuse to Tennessee APS at 1-888-277-8366. Call 911 for immediate danger. Tell someone you trust.

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