



Fiduciary Fraud

VA's Fiduciary Program was established to protect veterans and other beneficiaries who are unable to manage their financial affairs due to injury, disease, or age-related issues. Fiduciary fraud involves the theft of benefits by a VA-appointed fiduciary to manage VA beneficiaries' finances in their best interests. Indicators of potential violations include the following:

- The beneficiary has overdue or unpaid bills or medical copayments, or needs do not appear to be met (insufficient food, medication, clothing, heating, or other expected costs).
- The fiduciary is secretive or vague about spending or lacks documentation for expenses.
- The beneficiary's VA benefits are deposited into an account that is also used for other non-VA deposits (comingled).
- VA benefits and other government deposits are distributed among various accounts, or checks payable to "cash" are made from the beneficiary's account.
- Large or repeated ATM withdrawals and/or in-person withdrawals are made from the beneficiary's account.
- The fiduciary appears to be using or borrowing the beneficiary's VA benefits for their own personal use, particularly when there have been purchases of high-priced vehicles, property, or other goods or services.

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