



# Media Release

6 November 2011

## Public Trustee Urges Grandparents to Seek Help

Peter Carne, The Public Trustee of Queensland said Grandparents make a valuable contribution to their families and the broader Queensland community; yet sadly over 30,000 older Queenslanders experience Elder Abuse each year.

‘The Public Trustee is encouraging Grandparents to seek help if they are experiencing abuse of any type,’ Peter Carne said.

‘Too often we hear of Grandparents who are pressured by family members to sign documents and handover money and often they comply as they fear losing access to their grandchildren.

‘If Grandparents are unsure about what they are being asked to sign, I urge them to seek independent legal advice or contact The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit to discuss their options phone 1300 651 192.

‘Grandparents should also carefully consider the implications of who they appoint as their Enduring Power of Attorney for financial, personal and health matters.

‘The Public Trustee’s legal team often take action to re-coup money on behalf of our clients with incapacity. Many of these vulnerable Queenslanders have had money and assets misappropriated or misused by family and friends who have been placed in a position of trust,’ Peter Carne said.

Planning ahead is an important way to protect your future interests. For impartial advice about Enduring Powers of Attorney you can contact The Public Trustee or your solicitor.

To contact The Public Trustee phone 1300 360 044 or visit: [www.pt.qld.gov.au](http://www.pt.qld.gov.au)

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