

**Submission
No 65**

**INQUIRY INTO SUPPORT FOR OLDER VICTORIANS FROM MIGRANT
AND REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS**

Organisation: Unified Filipino Elderly Association Inc.

Date Received: 28 January 2022

Inquiry into support for older Victorians from migrant and refugee backgrounds

Ms MONINA MORALES

Organisation Name: UNIFIED FILIPINO ELDERLY ASSOCIATION INC

Your position or role: Secretary

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

Issue : There is no specific government agency that provides actual legal assistance to older Victorians:

1. who are financially taken advantage of by people, not their family or caregivers, who masks themselves as friends;
2. who are bullied and/or publicly humiliated either face to face or via social media i.e. facebook.

Application:

1. One of our older member tried to call Seniors Rights Victoria due to the financial disadvantage she experienced. They were accommodating but she was told that they cannot intervene in her problem;
2. One of our older member was publicly humiliated by a group of disgruntled ex-members, but she does not want to go to the courts to ask for an intervention order. She was apprehensive that she will experience the same rejection from the Magistrates Court when she came to seek an intervention order on a younger person who bullied her and shoved her at a council community hall, years back.

Conclusion:

Some older people are disadvantaged because of the lack of access to specific assistance such as legal services. These older people try ignore their experiences or isolate themselves as a response to bullying and when financially taken advantage of, because their issues are deemed non-criminal in nature. Thus, no specific government agency is responsible to help them.

Each Council should have a specific centre to provide actual legal representation and assistance to older Victorians. There are a number of admitted lawyers in Victoria but do not have a practicing certificate just yet. They will be suitable for this purpose even on a pro bono arrangement.

Are you interested in appearing before the committee in person to talk about your submission?*

Yes

Are you a carer/family member helping an older Victorian make a submission?*

No

Are you an older Victorian from a culturally diverse background? If yes, what is your age and cultural background? *:

No but I represent some older Victorians in our association

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Confidentiality:

Signature:
MONINA MORALES