

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The shapes are positioned on the left and right sides of the frame, framing the central white space where the text is located.

# Senior Safety & Crime Prevention

Presented by the Euclid Police Department

# Why is Senior Safety & Crime Prevention Necessary?

- ▶ Seniors are perceived to be financially well off or have an abundance of materials, even if they don't
- ▶ Seniors are sometimes hesitant to report victimization for fear of losing control and criminals know this
- ▶ Seniors are sometimes not fully aware of latest technologies and can be exploited this way
- ▶ Seniors who live alone may be open and welcoming to visitors for the sake of conversation or being polite, but criminals take advantage of this
- ▶ What strategies or tools will empower you to keep control?

# Senior Safety & Crime Prevention

## Asset Protection

- ▶ What can you do to protect and keep control of your assets?
  - ▶ Valuables
  - ▶ Personal or Medical Records
  - ▶ Financial Records & Bank Accounts
  - ▶ Medicine

## Personal Protection

- ▶ What can you do to remain safe in your home and when you are out?
  - ▶ Visitors
  - ▶ Phone Calls
  - ▶ Traveling
  - ▶ Shopping

# Protecting Your Assets

## ▶ Home

- ▶ Install quality locks on all doors
  - ▶ Keep windows and doors closed and locked when not home
  - ▶ Keep personal and financial records in a locked storage device
  - ▶ Store jewelry in a safe or well-hidden location
  - ▶ Store medicine in a locked cabinet, dispose of un-used in drug drop box
  - ▶ Limit who has keys and access to your house
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- ▶ Ask yourself what would happen to my assets if something were to happen to me right now.

# Protecting Yourself

## ▶ Be Aware

- ▶ Be alert when you are out in public, know what's going on around you
- ▶ Trust your instincts and take action
- ▶ Stay in areas with other people present
- ▶ Stay in well-lit areas at night

## ▶ Be Assertive

- ▶ Unwanted phone calls - "I'm not interested" and hang up
- ▶ Unwanted door to door sales - do not open door and say "Go away, I'm not interested"
- ▶ Approached on the street - "Leave me alone"
- ▶ Something doesn't feel right - "I'm calling the police"

# Protecting Yourself

## ▶ Be Smart

- ▶ Shop in the daytime
- ▶ Only carry enough cash or one credit card for the shopping your need
- ▶ Take friends or family with you, or tell them where you are going
- ▶ Keep your purse close to your body
- ▶ Keep your wallet in front pocket
- ▶ Lock your car doors when driving and when parked
- ▶ Know your neighbors and neighborhood - get addresses of those around you
- ▶ Call 216-731-1234 when you see or hear something suspicious in your neighborhood
- ▶ Program important numbers into your phone

# Fraud - Con Artists - Scams

## ▶ Types of Fraud or Scams

- ▶ Telephone
- ▶ IRS
- ▶ Fake check in the mail
- ▶ Grandparent
- ▶ Secret shopper
- ▶ Sweepstakes and lottery
- ▶ Investments
- ▶ Charity
- ▶ Identity theft
- ▶ Email spam
- ▶ Distract you while stealing

## ▶ Prevention

- ▶ Ask and check
- ▶ Be skeptical
- ▶ Shred papers
- ▶ Never agree over the phone
- ▶ Don't give out social security number
- ▶ Call the Ohio Attorney General
- ▶ Call the Euclid Police

# Agencies to Assist Seniors

- ▶ Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging -  
1-800-626-7277
- ▶ Cuyahoga County Division of Senior & Adult Services - 216-420-6700
- ▶ Benjamin Rose Institute - 216-791-8000
- ▶ Ohio Attorney General - 1-800-282-0515