

# Access to Justice for Older Persons in the United States

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# Access to Justice Principles

- Promote Accessibility — eliminate barriers that prevent people from understanding and exercising their rights.
- Ensure Fairness — deliver fair and just outcomes for all parties, including those facing financial and other disadvantages.
- Increase Efficiency — deliver fair and just outcomes effectively, without waste or duplication.

# Fig. 1: An Elder Law Paradigm



# Fig. 2: Elder Law Paradigm



# Examples of Access to Justice Challenges

- **Civil Legal Services**
- **Guardianship representation**
- **Protection from Elder Abuse/Exploitation**
- **Employment discrimination**
- **Ill-equipped Courts**
- **Ill-equipped prisons**
- **Voting in long-term care settings**