

YOUNG KIM40TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA**COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND
MONETARY POLICY
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FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC
COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY****Congress of the United States****House of Representatives****Washington, DC 20515****WASHINGTON OFFICE**
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February 10, 2026

The Honorable Pamela Bondi
U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi,

I write to express serious concern over a growing pattern of fraud and financial exploitation of America's elderly population, particularly through the misuse of Powers of Attorney (POAs), by medical caretakers and other bad actors in California and nationwide.

Too often, seniors – especially those experiencing cognitive decline – are manipulated into signing POAs that relinquish control of their finances, homes, and medical decisions to individuals posing as trusted helpers. My elderly constituents in California's 40th Congressional District have also fallen victim to this kind of fraud and abuse. By the time their families discover what has happened, it is often too late – their loved one's assets are gone, their homes sold, and their futures stripped away.

Unfortunately, law enforcement, Adult Protective Services, and the courts may dismiss or deprioritize these cases as unknowing victims technically "consented" to the POA. When caretakers or others exploit access to private medical information to obtain or misuse POA, this should not be treated as valid consent. We must work to protect elders from such predatory manipulation by implementing stronger safeguards, and I am committed to being a congressional partner to the U.S. Department of Justice (Department) on this issue. I respectfully request responses to the following questions:

1. What gaps in current federal law obstruct the investigation or prosecution of POA-related financial exploitation of cognitively impaired seniors as elder abuse?
2. To what extent does the Department track cases involving POA-related elder financial exploitation, and does the Department consider this form of abuse as an emerging national trend?

3. Is the Department considering new guidance, rulemaking, or investigative priorities specifically targeting POA-related elder exploitation?
4. Would the Department support creating a federal standard or model framework to more effectively assess the validity of POAs obtained from cognitively impaired adults?
5. What additional authorities, resources, or congressional actions would help your Department more effectively identify and combat POA-based elder abuse?

I stand ready to collaborate with your office to ensure that no family has to witness their loved one's life savings and independence disappear at the hands of abusers. Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'YK', is positioned above the typed name.

Young Kim
Member of Congress