



DID YOU KNOW?

5.4 million Americans
of all ages currently have
Alzheimer's disease. That could be
as many as **16 million** by 2050.*

IACP's Alzheimer's INITIATIVES

SAFEGUARDING THE MATURING POPULATION

It's not a question of *if* law enforcement will be dealing with persons with Alzheimer's disease, but rather *when* and how we'll respond.

First responders need to become skilled at effective interactions with people with Alzheimer's disease:

“Do’s”

- Introduce yourself and explain you are there to help
- Remain calm, smile, and use a friendly voice
- Speak slowly and ask simple questions
- Check for a tracking device or MedicAlert ID
- Change the topic to something pleasant if the person becomes agitated
- Provide security and comfort (i.e. blanket, water, or someplace to sit)

“Don’ts”

- Don’t take comments personally
- Don’t correct the person
- Don’t approach from behind without warning
- Don’t argue
- Don’t touch without asking/explaining
- Don’t repeat a question too many times as it may provoke agitation

To help law enforcement protect this special population, IACP’s Alzheimer’s Initiatives program is committed to helping first responders improve their knowledge and skills, and interact appropriately with persons with Alzheimer’s disease and their families and caregivers.

For more information, please visit: www.theiacp.org/alzheimers.

To request additional postcards for your department, please email alzheimers@theiacp.org.

* Statistics courtesy of the Alzheimer’s Association’s 2012 Facts & Figures report. For more information, please visit www.alz.org.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2010-SJ-BX-K001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the SMART Office, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.

alzheimer’s  association®



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
515 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314