

**ELDER LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER**

April 4, 2022

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Communications Committee Chair: Lucas Spaeth

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Contributors:

**ELDER LAW NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

Please submit upcoming news and highlights to [mcook@vgllaw.com](mailto:mcook@vgllaw.com).

**APRIL CLE AND EVENTS**

**Emerging Issues in Long-Term Care**

Thursday, April 21, 2022 from 8:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

This annual CLE focuses on current and emerging issues related to long-term care, particularly in the assisted living and nursing home settings that are of interest to Elder Law attorneys and related professionals as well as the clients they serve.

Get a pulse of what is going on in long-term care facilities from the Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) and medical professionals working in the long-term care setting. MDH will provide an update on the successes, concerns, trend, and items Elder Law attorneys should know related to new assisted living licensure that began on August 1, 2021, including MDH surveys of the licensed facilities as an indicator of understanding of new regulations as well as the new process for the termination or non-renewal of housing or services of residents. A Director of Quality Improvement, Education & Risk Management in the nursing home and assisted living settings will discuss navigating short staffing crises in the long-term care settings as well as continued COVID-19 considerations and some adjustments that may become more permanent. A Medical Director of several nursing homes and former Director of Hospice will give an overview of hospice as it relates to the long-term care setting, including transparency of information to residents and their families regarding hospice and coordination of care between and among long-term care and hospice staff.

**This CLE is free to Elder Section Members.**

Presenters:

**Lynn Gerard**, RNC, BSN, PHN, LNHA, Director of Quality Improvement, Education & Risk Management for Guardian Angels Senior Services

**Lindsey Krueger** , Regional Operations Executive Manager and Director of the Office of Health Facility Complaints

**Robert Sonntag** , MD, Health Partners Medical Group, Department of Geriatrics

Interested attendees may register here: <https://www.mnbar.org/members/cle-events/event?EventID=5172>.

*All MSBA programming is currently REMOTE-ONLY participation. There is NO in-person attendance.*

*For the MSBA statement on COVID-19 click [here](#). Thank you.*

Please submit upcoming CLEs to [mcook@vgllaw.com](mailto:mcook@vgllaw.com).

## **ELDER LAW SECTION ACTIVITIES**

### **ADVOCACY SUPPORT COMMITTEE:**

The Advocacy Support Committee meets remotely at the call of the chair.

Upcoming meeting dates to be announced.

### **AWARDS COMMITTEE:**

The Awards Committee Chair is appointed by the incoming Council Chair after the Council Chair takes office each year. The current Committee Chair is Julian J. Zweber. Members of the Committee are appointed each year by the Council Chair on recommendation by the Committee Chair as approved or modified by the Council Chair. The Committee usually meets from July to October of each year, at the call of the Committee Chair. Nominations will be accepted year-round by the Committee from Section members for Section Awards to be presented at the next Elder Law Institute sponsored by MN CLE, usually in October of each year. For more information, please contact Julian J. Zweber at 651-646-4354 or [julianzweber@qwestoffice.net](mailto:julianzweber@qwestoffice.net).

### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

The Communications Committee oversees the monthly Elder Law E-Newsletter and the Elder Law Section website. The committee is composed of the e-newsletter editor, web editor, associate editors, contributors, and any other interested section members. Meetings will be held remotely every other month to review issues related to the e-newsletter and the website, and to conduct an annual member survey.

The Communications Committee will meet on **April 13, 2022 at 8:30 A.M.**

The meeting will be arranged by video chat on Zoom or Microsoft Teams. The meeting link will be emailed to all committee members. Anyone interested in joining the meeting should email Lucas Spaeth at [lucas.spaeth@voamn.org](mailto:lucas.spaeth@voamn.org) for a link to the meeting.

Anyone interested in serving on the committee or suggesting ideas for the newsletter or website may contact Communications Committee chair Lucas Spaeth at [lucas.spaeth@voamn.org](mailto:lucas.spaeth@voamn.org) or (612) 676-6302.

#### DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:

The Diversity Committee meets with the Education Committee via Zoom at this time. Please see the Education Committee meeting information for meeting times/dates. If you have any questions or would like to join us, please contact the current chair, Maya Missaghi, at [maya@mmlawservices.com](mailto:maya@mmlawservices.com).

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The Education Committee plans CLE seminars sponsored by the Elder Law Section and meets via Zoom on the second Thursday of each month from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. Subcommittees of the Education Committee include New Lawyers and Law Students.

The Education Committee will meet next on **April 14, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.**

If you would like to participate, please contact the committee chair, Lauren Fink at [lfink@maserlaw.com](mailto:lfink@maserlaw.com). Anyone is welcome to join the committee or simply attend a meeting.

#### GOVERNING COUNCIL:

The Elder Law Section Governing Council is chaired by Amber Hildebrandt and is currently meeting via Zoom. The next meeting will be on **April 22, 2022 at 3:30 P.M.**

Please contact Tram Nguyen at [tnguyen@mnbars.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbars.org) or Amber Hildebrandt at [ahildebrandt@bwmlawpllp.com](mailto:ahildebrandt@bwmlawpllp.com) to receive Zoom instructions to join the meeting.

#### LAW STUDENT COMMITTEE:

The Law Student Committee helps attract students to become the next generation of elder law attorneys. The committee meets as needed during the school year. Our goal for this bar year is to host a panel event at each local law school where students can ask questions about the practice of elder law. We are always looking for other ways to engage students, so please feel free to attend meetings and make suggestions.

If you have questions about the committee, contact Jack Austin at [jack@hawkelawgroup.com](mailto:jack@hawkelawgroup.com).

#### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Elder Law Section's Legislative Committee monitors proposed legislation at the state and federal level affecting the Section's membership; reviews legislative proposals put forward by other Sections and Committees of the MSBA; reviews proposals from other groups, agencies and individuals; keeps Section membership informed of proposed legislation; provides comment and other responses to legislative proposals; makes recommendations concerning support of, or opposition to, legislative proposals; develops relationships with other organizations affected by

legislation of interest to the Section; acts as a coordinator for the Section's legislative activities; develops legislative proposals for inclusion in the MSBA legislative agenda; provides witnesses and testimony in support of, or opposition to, legislative proposals; and in general supports the MSBA and the Section's legislative agendas. Members interested in joining the committee or learning more about the legislative issues being reviewed by the committee may contact the Legislative Committee Chair, Suzy Scheller, at (763) 647-0042 or [suzy@schellerlegalsolutions.com](mailto:suzy@schellerlegalsolutions.com); or Vice-Chair, Julian J. Zweber, at (651-646-4354) or [julianzweber@qwestoffice.net](mailto:julianzweber@qwestoffice.net).

Several Elder Law Section only proposals are in effect for the current legislative session. The Elder Law Section is currently supporting proposals to pass new legislation regarding medical assistance treatment of life estates and irrevocable trusts as well as opposing proposed language related to resident trusts. Please contact Suzy Scheller at [suzy@schellerlegalsolutions.com](mailto:suzy@schellerlegalsolutions.com) with questions or requests for further information.

Please contact Tram Nguyen at [tnguyen@mnbars.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbars.org) to be added to the Elder Law Section Community Forum.

#### MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:

The Medical Assistance Committee is a study group to analyze the members' questions and case studies and to discuss administrative policies and procedures in relation to Medical Assistance in Minnesota. For directions, or to attend by phone, please contact Callyn Bedker at 507-587-8766 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Topics for the meeting may be submitted to Callyn at [callyn@bedkerlaw.com](mailto:callyn@bedkerlaw.com) under the subject heading "MA Committee Topic".

The Medical Assistance (MA) Committee will meet next on **April 19, 2022 at 3:30 P.M.**

**Please note, due to COVID-19, all meetings will be held remotely by telephone at this time.**

To attend by telephone, call 1-888-354-0094 at the designated meeting time. When prompted, enter Conference Identification Number [or Participant Code] 8157976029# to be connected to the conference.

MA Committee members are invited to join the Medical Assistance Community forum at [my.mnbar.org](http://my.mnbar.org). Please contact Tram Nguyen at [tnguyen@mnbars.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbars.org) to be added to the community.

#### PRO BONO COMMITTEE:

Please contact Emily Weichsel at 612-524-7356 or [emilyweivhsel@gmail.com](mailto:emilyweivhsel@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating in this committee.

#### STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

The Strategic Planning Committee meets at the call of the Section Chair. Questions may be directed to Amber Hildebrandt at 218-759-1673 or [ahildebrandt@bwmlawpllp.com](mailto:ahildebrandt@bwmlawpllp.com).

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The MSBA Elder Law Section's [Website](#) contains information about section committees and leadership. It also contains useful practice resources.

You may email Lucas Spaeth at [lucas.spaeth@voamn.org](mailto:lucas.spaeth@voamn.org) to suggest changes to website content.

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Please send E-Newsletter contributions by 10 p.m. on the last day of each month to Maggie Cook at [mcook@vgllaw.com](mailto:mcook@vgllaw.com). The E-Newsletter is distributed on the first Monday of each month. If the first Monday occurs on a holiday, the E-Newsletter will be distributed on the following Monday.

If you do not wish to receive this E-Newsletter, send your request to be removed from the mailing list to Tram Nguyen at [tnguyen@mnbars.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbars.org).

Current and prior E-Newsletters are posted on the website for the MSBA Elder Law Section and are available [HERE](#).