

**MSBA ELDER LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER**

May 4, 2020

Vol. 11, No. 62

Communications Committee Chair: Mardell Presler

Editor in Chief: Mallory Moen

Web Coordinator: Lucas Spaeth

Contributors: Mardell Presler, Marit Peterson

**ELDER LAW NEWS**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:**

We need you! The Governing Council of the Elder Law Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association needs your energy, your perspective, and your commitment to high quality Elder Law in Minnesota. Nominations are open for two-year terms on the Governing Council and for one-year officer terms for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer commencing on July 1, 2018. **Don't be shy! Please nominate yourself** or others to fill these important positions.

Contact: Jeffrey W. Schmidt @ (651) 291-2405 or jschmidt@elderlaw123.com

Nominations to be included on the written slate for voting at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for June 19, 2020. Nominations may also be made on the floor at the Annual Meeting.

*Contributed by Marit Peterson.*

**Focus on Elder Law**

Hennepin Lawyer, May/June 2020, Volume 89, Issue 3, offers a number of articles that address ageism in our practice. Click [here](#) to read what our colleagues are saying.

*Contributed by Mardell Presler.*

## **MAY CLE AND EVENTS**

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

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

### **REMOTE ONLY: To Modify or not to Modify an Irrevocable Trust is not the Question, but How to do it Right Is...**

Thursday, May 14, 2020 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, Remote Only.

The Minnesota Uniform Trust Code provided new tools for modifying irrevocable trusts. This CLE will walk through the different methods, the requirements for each, and provide examples for the best uses of each modification method.

Presenters:

Joshua C. Hillger of Messerli Kramer  
Barbara M. Kristiansson of Messerli Kramer

The deadline to register is May 12, 2020. To register, click [here](#).

### **REMOTE ONLY: Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Fuss**

Thursday, May 21, 2020 from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M., Remote Only:

Join Attorney Jill Sauber for a lively seminar about Minnesota laws and legal issues surrounding human remains, including handling of a person's body after death, who has the right to control final disposition, and issues commonly encountered about the transfer of human remains (cremated or otherwise). Also, a timely discussion of how funerals are being arranged or body donations are taking place during COVID-19, and what that means for families.

Presenter:

Jill Sauber of Sauber Legal Services, LLC

The deadline to register is May 19, 2020. To register, click [here](#).

### **REMOTE ONLY: How to Successfully Run a Post-COVID-19 Law Practice**

Thursday, May 28, 2020 from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, Remote Only.

This CLE will help you identify and take advantage of opportunities to benefit you, your firm and your clients now and in the long run. The presenters will share the benefit of their experience with you, including: working virtually, managing your team, marketing, and handling economic challenges.

Presenters:

Margaret Barrett of Safe Harbor Estate Law  
Matt Ludt of Atticus Family Law

The deadline to register is May 26, 2020. To register, click [here](#).

## **UPCOMING CLE**

### **Medical Assistance for Home and Community - Based Services**

June 18, 2020 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM at Minnesota State Bar Association Minneapolis.

When applying for Medical Assistance benefits, clients requiring long-term care are often directed toward Medical Assistance for Long-Term Care or the Elderly Waiver program. However, there are a number of lesser-known programs (with many acronyms) available to clients to provide services for a multitude of health care needs. The focus of this presentation is an examination of the “alphabet soup” of Medical Assistance programs available for clients in Minnesota, including the eligibility requirements, benefits available, and different examples of clients who could benefit from these programs.

Speaker: Lauren L. Fink | Attorney, Maser, Amundson & Boggio, P.A.

To register, click [here](#).

Please submit upcoming CLEs to [mmoen@chandlerandbrown.com](mailto:mmoen@chandlerandbrown.com).

## **ELDER LAW SECTION ACTIVITIES**

### **ADVOCACY SUPPORT COMMITTEE:**

The Advocacy Support Committee meets at the offices of Long, Reher, Hanson & Price. Telephone participation is available. Please contact committee chair Laura Zdychnec at [lzdychnec@mnelderlaw.com](mailto:lzdychnec@mnelderlaw.com) for call-in instructions or more information.

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. The Committee solicits nominations from Section members for Section Awards and determines what Awards should 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 coordinator, associate editors, contributors, and any other interested section members. Meetings are to be held every other month to review issues related to the e-newsletter and the website, and to conduct an annual member survey. Upcoming meetings for the Communications Committee are as follows:

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

**August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

The meeting location is Julian's Office at 1360 Energy Park Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55108 in the First Floor Conference Room. If you're not able to attend in person, please contact Mardell Presler or Tram Nguyen to request a conference call in number, [mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.com](mailto:mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.com) or [tnguyen@mnbars.org](mailto:tnguyen@mnbars.org).

Anyone interested in serving on the committee or suggesting ideas for the newsletter or website may contact Communications Committee chair Mardell Presler to [mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.com](mailto:mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.com) or 763-360-7833.

#### DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:

Meetings will be held via teleconference on the second Tuesday of every month from 9:30-10:15 am.

Please contact Maya Missaghi at [maya@mmlawservices.com](mailto:maya@mmlawservices.com) if you would like to join!

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The Education Committee plans CLE seminars sponsored by the Elder Law Section and meets via conference call on the second Thursday of each month from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

If you would like to participate, please contact the committee chair, Laura Orr at [laura.orr@smrls.org](mailto:laura.orr@smrls.org).

#### 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).

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 Traci Sherman with Pluto Boes Legal, PLLC, at [tsherman@plutoboeslegal.com](mailto:tsherman@plutoboeslegal.com) or 507-247-5900 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Topics for the meeting may be submitted to [tsherman@plutoboeslegal.com](mailto:tsherman@plutoboeslegal.com) under the subject heading "MA Committee Topic," or faxed to 507-247-5868.

The Medical Assistance (MA) Committee meetings will be at 3:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of even-numbered months. 2020 meetings are tentatively scheduled for the following dates:

**June 23, 2020 at 3:30**

**August 18, 2020 at 3:30**

**October 20, 2020 at 3:30**

**December 15, 2020 at 3:30**

To attend by telephone, call 1-800-226-9607 at the designated meeting time. When prompted, enter Conference Identification Number [or Participant Code] 8157976029# to be connected to the conference.

The Committee is hosted by Estate & Elder Law Service at Monroe Village, 1900 Central Avenue NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418. Parking is available behind the building and along adjacent streets. In-person attendees should enter through the door facing the parking lot behind the building. This door leads directly into the community room.

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:**

The Pro Bono Committee, due to lack of attendance, is suspending committee meetings until further notice. Please contact Jennifer Wright, Chair, at [jlinderwright@gmail.com](mailto:jlinderwright@gmail.com), if you have an interest in working with the Pro Bono Committee.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

The next Strategic Planning Committee meeting date is to be announced. Meetings are held at the law office of Maser, Amundson, Boggio & Hendricks, P.A., located at 6601 Lyndale Avenue South, Suite 320, Richfield, MN 55423. Questions may be directed to Brenna Galvin at [bgalvin@maserlaw.com](mailto:bgalvin@maserlaw.com).

**VULNERABLE ADULT COMMITTEE:**

Contact Marit Peterson at [marit.peterson@elderjusticemn.org](mailto:marit.peterson@elderjusticemn.org) or 651-440-9303, if you are interested in participating in this committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please send E-Newsletter contributions by 10 p.m. on the last day of each month to Mallory Moen at [mmoen@chandlerandbrown.com](mailto:mmoen@chandlerandbrown.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](#).