

MSBA ELDER LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER
December 2, 2019

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E-Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Communications Committee Chair: Mardell Presler

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E-NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteer with MNAPABA at Arc's Value Village

Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Arc's Value Village: 6528 Penn Ave. S., Richfield, MN 55423.

Arc's Value Village Thrift Stores and Donation Centers started in 1982 as a means of funding programs and services that benefit children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families through The Arc Minnesota.

[Click here to register](#)

The Elder Law Choir

Sunday, December 15, at 1:45 pm at Episcopal Homes.

Attention Elder Law singers! The Elder Law Choir will be singing Christmas carols and holiday songs at Episcopal Homes on Sunday, December 15, at 2 pm. We will meet in the atrium at around 1:45. Song sheets will be provided. No talent required, just a desire to sing traditional songs to a very appreciative audience. We may go on to another nearby nursing home after our 45 minute set at Episcopal Homes. Then we will repair to a nearby watering hole for some Christmas cheer and refreshment. This group is the most fun of any Elder Law Section activity.

Please contact Pook Grathwol (PGrathwol@chestnutcambronne.com) if you have questions, or if you would like to join us.

Please submit news articles of interest to mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.com.

DECEMBER CLE

What Every Solo Needs to Know about Estate/Elder Law

Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM at Louisiana Café, Saint Paul.

Due to our aging population, all solos are more likely to encounter issues surrounding aging in their practice area. Listen to 3 TED style talks and come away with checklists you can quickly refer to regarding:

- how to watch for exploitation of vulnerable adults and how to best handle it.
- understand why people need a plan to pay for long term care years before they might apply for Medical Assistance.
- practical tips on how to do skip tracing to find missing family members, witnesses, etc.

Presenters:

Suzanne M. Scheller | [Scheller Legal Solutions LLC](#)

Bridget-Michaele Reischl | [Decoro Law Office](#)

Margaret Barrett | [Safe Harbor Estate Law](#)

Sarah Larsen | Outreach Librarian, Minnesota State Law Library

[Click here to register](#)

ETHICS: THE INTERSECTION OF LEGAL ETHICS & MENTAL HEALTH – OUR CLIENTS, OUR COLLEAGUES, OURSELVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 from 9:00 AM - 12:15 PM at Minnesota CLE Conference Center, 600 Nicollet Mall # 370, 3rd Floor, City Center, Minneapolis.

This extremely helpful, thought-provoking legal ethics seminar brings you insights from the intersection of legal ethics and mental health:

- Our Clients –Lawyers may see clients who appear to be suffering from substance misuse, depression or other impairments. While it is not our job to diagnose, what are some of the warning signs that can alert us that we may be faced with ethical responsibilities triggered by possible impairment?
- Our Colleagues –For lawyers, trust account issues, missing deadlines and failing to communicate or complete projects may be the tip of the iceberg for far greater problems ranging from too much stress to addiction and mental health issues. When the lawyer is impaired, there are obligations as well but there is also help available.
- Ourselves –Research shows that lawyers who are dealing with significant stress or mental health (including substance use) issues are more likely to experience ethics problems. By reducing the stigma about well-being and getting help when needed, the incidence of ethical complaints may be reduced.

Satisfy your 3-hour ethics CLE credit requirement with this engaging seminar.

[Click here to register](#)

ELIMINATION OF BIAS: HOW TO REDUCE STRESS, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM at Minnesota CLE Conference Center, 600 Nicollet Mall # 370, 3rd Floor, City Center, Minneapolis.

Research shows that there are high levels of stress, anxiety and depression in the legal profession. The stress lawyers face is a predictor for depression, and untreated depression is the number-one predictor for suicide. Lawyers also must deal with the fact that clients can be suicidal.

Joan Bibelhausen, the Executive Director of Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, leads a panel discussion on these important issues. Panelists include two practicing attorneys and a counselor from a local Employee Assistance Program.

[Click here to register](#)

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 for call-in instructions or more information.

Upcoming meeting dates to be announced.

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 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:

December 11th, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

February 12th, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

April 8th, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

June 10th, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

August 12th, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting location is Julian's Office at 1360 Energy Park Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55108 in the First Floor Conference Room.

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 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 if you would like to join!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The Education Committee plans CLE seminars sponsored by the Elder Law Section and meets by telephone 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.

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.

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; or Vice-Chair, Julian J. Zweber, at (651-646-4354) or julianzweber@qwestoffice.net.

Please contact Tram Nguyen at tnguyen@mnbars.org to be added to the Elder Law Section Community Forum.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:

The Medical Assistance (MA) Committee meetings will be at 3:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of even-numbered months. The next meetings will be:

December 17th at 3:30 p.m.

February 18th at 3:30 p.m.

April 21st at 3:30 p.m.

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 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 or 507-247-5900 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Topics for the meeting may be submitted to tsherman@plutoboeslegal.com under the subject heading "MA Committee Topic," or faxed to 507-247-5868.

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. Please contact Tram Nguyen at tnguyen@mnbars.org to be added to the community.

NEW LAWYERS COMMITTEE:

Meetings will be held the second Thursday of even-numbered months at noon. Each meeting has a different topic based upon input from the new lawyers committee. Minutes of past meetings are available. The meetings are formatted so that a seasoned elder law attorney will speak for the first half hour, and the second half hour will be questions and answers.

Meetings will be held at Chestnut Cambronne PA, 17 Washington Ave N #300, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Please contact Pook Grathwol at pgrathwol@chestnutcambronne.com or (612) 336-2919.

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, 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.

VULNERABLE ADULT COMMITTEE:

Contact Marit Peterson at 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 Bridget-Michaele Reischl at bridget@decorolaw.com to suggest changes to website content.

Please send E-Newsletter contributions by 10 p.m. on the last day of each month to Mardell Presler at mardell@mardellpreslerlaw.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.

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