



# NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207 • 518.463.3200 • [www.nysba.org](http://www.nysba.org)

## ELDER LAW AND SPECIAL NEEDS SECTION

### 2014-2015 Executive Committee

#### RICHARD A. WEINBLATT

Chair

631/582-5151, [raw@hwclaw.com](mailto:raw@hwclaw.com)

#### JULIEANN CALARESO

Chair-Elect

518/452-1961, [jcalareso@burkesscasserly.com](mailto:jcalareso@burkesscasserly.com)

#### DAVID GOLDFARB

Vice-Chair

212/387-8400, [goldfarb@seniorlaw.com](mailto:goldfarb@seniorlaw.com)

#### MARTIN HERSH

Secretary

845-292-9345, [elder.law@verizon.net](mailto:elder.law@verizon.net)

#### JUDITH D. GRIMALDI

Treasurer

718-238-6960, [jgrimaldi@gylawny.com](mailto:jgrimaldi@gylawny.com)

#### MARTIN S. FINN

Financial Officer

518/869-6227, [marty@lavelleandfinn.com](mailto:marty@lavelleandfinn.com)

#### FRANCES M. PANTALEO

Immediate Past Chair

914/287-6113, [fpantaleo@bplsaw.com](mailto:fpantaleo@bplsaw.com)

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

##### CLIENT AND CONSUMER ISSUES

Melinda Bellus/Shari Hubner, Co-Chairs

Michel P. Haggerty, Vice-Chair

##### DIVERSITY

Deepankar Mukerji/Pauline Yeung-Ha, Co-Chairs

Veronica Escobar/Elizabeth Valentin, Vice-Chairs

##### ELDER ABUSE

Joy Solomon, Chair

Deborah S. Ball/Julie S. Fernandez/

Robert Freedman/Judith Nolfo-McKenna, Vice-Chairs

##### ESTATES, TRUSTS AND TAX ISSUES

Robert J. Kurre/Patricia J. Shevy, Co-Chairs

Jeffrey A. Asher/Salvatore M. DiCostanzo/

Judith Nolfo-McKenna/David R. Okrent, Vice-Chairs

##### ETHICS

Natalie J. Kaplan, Chair

Judith B. Raskin, Vice-Chair

##### FINANCIAL PLANNING AND INVESTMENTS

Ronald a. Fatoullah, Chair

William D. Pfeiffer/Donna Stefans, Vice-Chairs

##### GUARDIANSHIPS

Elynn S. Kravitz/Robert Kruger/, Co-Chairs

Patricia Bave/Fern J. Finkel/Anthony J. Lamberti/

Kimberlee F. Trigoboff, Vice-Chairs

##### HEALTH CARE ISSUES

Tammy R. Lawlor, Chair

Deborah a. Slezak/Miles P. Zatkowsky, Vice-Chairs

##### LEGAL EDUCATION

Anthony Enea/Frances M. Pantaleo, Co-Chairs

##### LEGISLATION

Matthew Nolfo/Ira Salzman, Co-Chairs

Robert P. Mascali/Deepankar Mukerji/ Amy S. O'Connor/

Stephen J. Silverberg/T. David Stapleton, Jr., Vice-Chairs

##### MEDIATION

Beth Polner Abrahams/Antonia J. Martinez, Co-Chairs

Laurie L. Menzies/Robert W. Shaw, Vice-Chairs

##### MEDICAID

Valerie J. Bogart/Rene H. Reixach, Jr., Co-Chairs

Britt N. Burner/Michael D. Dezik/Sara Meyers, Vice-Chairs

##### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Salvatore M. DiCostanzo/Pauline Yeung-Ha, Co-Chairs

Amy L. Earing/Ellen G. Makofsky, Vice-Chairs

##### MENTAL HEALTH

Suanne L. Chiacchiaro, Chair

Martin Petroff, Vice-Chair

##### MENTORING

Anne E. Dello-Iacono/Richard A. Marchese, Jr., Co-Chairs

Timothy E. Casserly/Joan L. Robert, Vice-Chairs

##### PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Miles P. Zatkowsky, Chair

Robert J. Kurre, Vice-Chair

##### PUBLICATIONS

Adrienne J. Arkontaky/David I. Kronenberg, Co-Chairs

Tara Anne Pleat, Vice-Chair

##### REAL ESTATE AND HOUSING

Jeanette Grabie/Neil T. Rimsky, Co-Chairs

Jeffrey G. Abrandt, Vice-Chair

##### SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING

Joseph Greenman/Tara Anne Pleat, Co-Chairs

Lisa K. Friedman/Robert P. Mascali/Joan L. Robert, Vice-Chairs

##### SPECIAL ED

Adrienne J. Arkontaky, Chair

Tracey S. Walsh, Vice-Chair

##### SPONSORSHIP

Jeanette Grabie, Chair

Elizabeth Briand, Vice-Chair

##### TECHNOLOGY

Maira S. Laidlaw/Frances M. Pantaleo, Co-Chairs

Monica P. Ruela, Vice-Chair

##### VETERAN'S BENEFITS

Felicia Pasculli, Chair/Nina M. Daratsos, Vice-Chair

##### LIAISON TO LAW SCHOOLS

Marianne Artusio/Margaret M. Flint/Peter J. Strauss

#### FOUNDING CHAIR

Mortimer J. Goodstein

Muriel S. Kessler

Robert Abrams

Robert M. Freedman

Vincent J. Russo

Walter T. Burke

#### FORMER CHAIRS:

Kathryn Grant Madigan

Michael E. O'Connor

Bernard A. Krooks

Louis W. Pierro

Cora A. Alsante

Joan L. Robert

Howard S. Krooks

Daniel G. Fish

Ellen G. Makofsky

Ami S. Longstreet

Timothy E. Casserly

Michael J. Amoroso

Sharon Kovacs Gruer

T. David Stapleton, Jr.

Anthony J. Enea

TO: Members, Elder Law & Special Needs, Health and Trusts & Estates Law Sections

FROM: Melinda Bellus and Shari S. L. Hubner  
Co-Chairs, Committee on Client and Consumer Issues

DATE: January, 2015

SUBJECT: Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day 2015

For the past 20 years, the New York State Bar Association through the Elder Law and Special Needs Section has sponsored and promoted its Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day to inform the public about advanced directives. We are writing to encourage section members to participate in one of the programs to be held **on or after April 16, 2015**.

The Programs usually last between forty-five minutes and one hour. As a speaker, you will provide attendees with information on healthcare and financial decision making, guardianship issues, wills and probate. Specific issues include:

- The purposes of the power of attorney and health care proxy and how they differ.
- How to choose an agent for the power of attorney or health care proxy.
- The different kinds of powers of attorney and when they are effective.
- Why a will is important.
- What is probate?

Last year, there were over 70 programs at community facilities, senior centers, libraries and hospitals. We hope to increase the number of programs this year and educate even more New Yorkers on these important issues.

If you are interested in speaking at a 2015 Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day Program, please complete the Attorneys Needed form which can be found at [www.nysba.org/2015mrnhdd](http://www.nysba.org/2015mrnhdd) and e-mail, fax or mail it to Kathy Plog at the New York State Bar Association **no later than March 1, 2015**. **We strongly encourage speakers to arrange their own Program at a location of their choice.** We will need speakers for other Program sites as well. Upon confirmation, we will send you a sample script and copies of the program materials. Materials for the attendees will be sent directly to the site unless otherwise requested.

Should you need any additional information, please call or email Kathy Plog at 518/487-5681 or [kplog@nysba.org](mailto:kplog@nysba.org).

We hope you will agree to speak at a National Healthcare Decisions Day 2015 Program and take this opportunity to help educate the public on these important issues.

#### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:

Matthew Nolfo, New York City  
Fern J. Finkel, Brooklyn  
Robert P. Mascali, Latham  
Tara Anne Pleat, Clifton Park  
Jeffrey N. Rheinhardt, Ilion  
Karen J. McMullen, Endicott  
Richard A. Marchese, Jr., Rochester

#### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Lee A. Hoffman, Jr.  
Patricia J. Shevy  
Peter J. Strauss