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March 2015

Dear Program Manager:

Your facility is invited to participate in the 23rd annual statewide Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day Program sponsored by the Elder Law and Special Needs Section of the New York State Bar Association. National Healthcare Decisions Day/Week is Sunday, April 16 – April 23, 2017, but you may choose a later date if this week is not convenient for you.

Through this public service project, volunteer lawyers will give free presentations explaining legal procedures and documents to help attendees make better, more informed health care and financial decisions. The topics for this year's program will include a "Legal Checklist," with an overview of legal documents **every New Yorker** should be aware of. "*It always seems too early, until it is too late.*"

Last year, the Association conducted over 70 programs across the State at community facilities, senior centers, libraries and hospitals. This year we hope to increase the number of programs. We hope you will take the opportunity again this year to host a Decisions Day program to educate the public on these important issues.

By agreeing to host such a program, a volunteer attorney will come to your facility to speak and provide your attendees with information on Healthcare Decision Making, Financial Decision Making, Guardianship Issues, Wills and Probate. Your program will last between forty-five minutes and one hour.

If you are interested in hosting a 2016 Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day Program, please complete the enclosed form and fax or mail it to Kathy Plog at the New York State Bar Association ASAP. Once we receive your form, we will match you with an attorney volunteer. Upon confirmation, we will also send advertising materials and brochures for the audience.

Please note that while we will do everything in our power to ensure a Mitchell Rabbino National Healthcare Decisions Day Program at your facility, submission of this form does not guarantee the event. Please wait for confirmation that a speaker has been assigned to your site before advertising the event.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please call Kathy Plog at 518/487-5681 or e-mail her at kplog@nysba.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melinda Bellus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melinda" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Bellus".

Melinda Bellus, Program Chair