

## VULNERABLE ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING - JULY 30, 2009

Recap by Suzy Scheller

Goal of Committee: Educating the public on vulnerable adult issues.

1. EDUCATION SEMINARS - All agreed to form teams of members around topics of interest to present at various community and professional meetings. William Brown reported that we could pay for teaching social worker continuing education classes or go out on our own and network for presenting seminars at no cost. The group indicated that the no cost option was preferred. The goal is for each member to present 2 seminars per year.

a. The following were the three main areas of interest and the individuals expressing such interest:

i. Power of Attorney and Guardianship/Conservatorship – Letty Van Ert, Janet Totter, Joel Button (and Nick Halbur)

ii. Vulnerable Adults Act and Financial Exploitation – William Brown, Suzy Scheller, and Nick Halbur

iii. Elder Abuse and Neglect and Nursing Home/Facility Placement (What families should think about) – Ken LaBore, Joel Smith, Bryan Chant, and Louise Behrendt

b. Members not present at the meeting should feel free to form an additional team around a new topic or join an existing team in an area of interest.

c. With teams formed, members should contact their sources to see if seminars are desired around the three topics above. Joel Smith will talk to Elder Care Rights Alliance, William Brown will talk with Minneapolis Area Senior Worker's Association or other of his contacts to gauge interest, Letty mentioned that SMRLS may have interest, and others will make similar contacts. Nick Halbur suggested that St. Thomas law students participate in leading and/or facilitating sessions if desired. As we speak to the various organizations we will bring back dates to the group and those interested in the particular topic above will determine if they can present at that time.

d. As we go out, we will mention that we are members of the Vulnerable Adults Standing Committee of the Elder Law Section of the MSBA in addition to our firm/professional affiliations.

2. POWER OF ATTORNEY DOCUMENT – Letty presented her materials on power of attorney, in both a professional version and consumer version. Anyone with feedback should contact her.

3. REPRESENTATION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS ISSUES ON ORGANIZATIONS AND BOARDS – Each member was encouraged to represent vulnerable adult issues on some task group, board, or similar organization.

a. As part of informing other organizations about the VA Committee, its Seminar offerings, and what we are trying to accomplish, Suzy and Joel Button will draft a brochure/flyer as a “talking piece” to present when we talk to other organizations.

4. A draft of the Elder Law Institute schedule was distributed.

5. Next meeting is October 29, 2009 at Noon at PRSL offices.