

MSBA ELDER LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER

March 16, 2010

E-Newsletter Editorial Staff:

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TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM (TED)

Does your client have trouble

- hearing the phone ring?
- hearing while talking on the phone?
- holding onto a handset?
- dialing?
- having the voice heard on the phone?

If so, Minnesota's Telephone Equipment Distribution (TED) program can help. The TED program offers telephone equipment at no cost to those who qualify.

To qualify, a person must:

- live in Minnesota
- have phone service
- have a hearing loss or a speech or physical disability
- have an annual income of \$43,391 or less for one person; \$56,742 or less for two people

Visit www.tedprogram.org for more than two person households or call 1-800-657-3663 or 1-888-206-6555 (TTY users).

If your client qualifies, TED program staff will decide what equipment is needed, such as:

- telephones that make voices sound louder and clearer
- devices that make the phone ring louder or have a lamp flash when the phone rings
- hands-free speaker phones for people who have trouble holding a handset or dialing
- captioned telephones so users can read what callers say
- TTY for deaf or speech-impaired callers

- equipment for people who are deaf blind or have other needs for non-standard equipment

Having a telephone helps people feel more secure, depend on family members less and to socialize more freely.

To learn more about TED, visit the Web site at www.tedprogram.org or e-mail ted.program@state.mn.us, Call 1-800-657-3663 or 1-888-206-6555 for TTY callers. Contact the TED Program at 444 Lafayette Rd. N., St. Paul, MN 55155-3814. Staff also offers presentations at no charge.

The Telephone Equipment Distribution Program is administered by the Department of Commerce – Telecommunications Access Minnesota (TAM) and funded by a telephone surcharge.

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division also offers other services for deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf/blind individuals and their family members. To find out more about these services, call 651-431-5940 (voice) or 1-888-206-6513 (TTY) or visit www.dhhsd.org

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LATEST ON HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL:

Check out the latest links below for the most up-to-date information about the Health Care Reform Bill.

Bill Language

House Version: H.R.3962 - Affordable Health Care for America Act

<http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3962/show>

Senate Version: [H.R.3590](http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3590/text?version=ocas) - Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Legislative Vehicle)

<http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3590/text?version=ocas>

Latest Health Care Reform News Reports

Obama launches attack on health insurance companies

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/08/AR2010030801703.html?wpisrc=nl_politics

Why insurers don't control costs

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/ezra-klein/2010/03/why_insurers_dont_control_cost.html?wpisrc=nl_pmpolitics

A Big Week for Health Care Reform: What could Happen Next?

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-503544_162-20000431-503544.html

LINK OF THE WEEK

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRUST AND ESTATE COUNSEL. ACTEC, comprised of approximately 2,600 lawyers, is a national organization. Its purpose is to study and improve trust, estate and tax laws, procedures and professional responsibility. The website contains links to recent developments in the field, along with member commentaries, available publications, member presentations and journals, including the ACTEC Journal.

Access ACTEC via the "Useful Links" area of the Elder Law Section website,

<http://www.mnbar.org/sections/elder-law/practiceLinks.asp>.

ELDER LAW NEWS

Elder abuse a growing concern

<http://www.crookstontimes.com/lifestyle/x1498218226/Elder-abuse-a-growing-concern>

Developing Services for Older Abused Women: A Guide for Domestic Abuse Programs

<http://vaw.umn.edu/documents/developingservicesolder/developingservicesolder.pdf>

Elder abuse victim lost the farm, but found a new life

http://www.startribune.com/local/north/86764092.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUUsZ

Whistleblower: Grandma swindled with call for help

http://www.startribune.com/local/87419227.html?elr=KArksD:aDyaEP:kD:aUq9_b9b_jEkP:QUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aU7DYaGEP7vDEh7P:DiUs

'Grandparents' wanted

<http://www.dl-online.com/event/article/id/51557/group/News/>

New tool lets patients call the shots at end of their lives

http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/health/87173072.html?elr=KArksi8cyaiUBP7hUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUHDYaGEP7eyckcUr

Eagan nurse charged with stealing drugs

http://www.startribune.com/local/south/87150052.html?elr=KArks7PYDiaK7DUoaK7D_V_eDc87DUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUU

It's time to push end of life issue
<http://erstarnews.com/content/view/11522/42/>

Minnesota unveils rates for 'medical homes' program
http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_14522696?nclick_check=1

MINNESOTA CASES

There are no Minnesota Cases to report this week.

STATUTES, REGULATIONS, BULLETINS

There are no Statutes, Regulations or Bulletins this Week.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CLE PROGRAMS

Alzheimer's Association: "A Meeting of the Minds" Dementia Conference 2010

March 20

Contact Information:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=723531>

10 Things Estate Planners Should Know About Medical Assistance Hennepin County Bar Association

March 22

Contact Information: <https://www.hcba.org/Intus/Event3/event.asp>

The Future of Long-Term Care: Finding effective and affordable models Vital Aging Network

March 24

Contact information: http://vital-aging-network.org/Forums/33/The_Future_of_Long-Term_Care.html

Elimination of Bias Training: Advising and Representing Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Elders

MN Legal Services Coalition

March 26

Contact Information: <http://www.projusticemn.org/link.cfm?14483>

Rural Urban Connections Video Conferences

Multiple Video Conferences with Various Topics

March 29, Northeast Minnesota
Tentative Topic: Health Care/Entrepreneurship
Contact Information:

<http://go2.wordpress.com/?id=725X1342&site=mnruralpartners.wordpress.com&url=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.rurb.mn%2Fvideoconferences%2F>

**Four Programs on Aging
Circle of Life Aging Services**

March 22
“Sociological Aspects of Aging”
Shoreview Community Center

March 23
“Ethics and Professionalism in the Aging Field”
Bloomington Center of the Arts

Contact Information: <http://www.circleoflifemn.com/training/schedule.html>

ELDER LAW SECTION ACTIVITIES

MA COMMITTEE MEETING: The next MA Committee meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at the MAO Offices, 2021 E. Hennepin, Suite 200, Minneapolis. Topics for the meeting may be submitted to MA Committee Chair, Cathryn Reher, at creher@mnelderlaw.com, or faxed to 952-542-9201. For directions, or to attend by phone, please contact Tracie Fenske with Long, Reher & Hanson, P.A. at 952-929-0622.

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING: The next meeting of the Elder Law Section Governing Council will be at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 23, 2010, at the MAO offices, 2021 E. Hennepin, Suite 200, Minneapolis. All members are welcome to attend. To participate by phone, please contact Vicki McIntyre at vmcintyre2@yahoo.com or 612-722-8572.

VULNERABLE ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting of the Vulnerable Adult Committee will be Thursday, April 29, 2010 at Noon, at the offices of Pearson, Randall, Schumacher & LaBore, P.A., 100 S. 5th Street, Suite 1025, Minneapolis, 612.767.7500. Contact co-chairs Ken LaBore at klabore@prslegal.com or Joel Smith at joel@koslaw.com for more information.

DON'T FORGET THAT THE ELDER LAW WEBSITE IS A GREAT RESOURCE. Here's what you can find on the Website: Links to the DHS Health Care Programs Manual, the DHS Bulletin on treatment of uncompensated transfers, the

Minnesota Bankers Association Compliance Bulletin on Powers of Attorney, legislative summary; Practice Links to organizations such as NAELA, ABA Commission on Law and Aging, Links to Federal and State Government Agencies, Statutes, and Regulations; Meeting Notices, Listings of Officers and Council Members, Section Bylaws, and more.

To access the ELDER LAW SECTION WEBSITE

Click here: <http://www2.mnbar.org/sections/elder-law/index.asp>.

Please send E-Newsletter contributions by noon on Saturday of each week to Marjorie Austin at mj@mjaustinlaw.com.

If you do not wish to receive this E-Newsletter, send your request to be removed from the mailing list to Elyse Farnsworth at efarnsworth@statebar.gen.mn.us.

Current and prior E-Newsletters are posted on the website for the MSBA Elder Law Section and are available at: <http://www2.mnbar.org/sections/elder-law/newsletters.asp>.
