

**MSBA ELDER LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER**  
**March 22, 2011**

**Vol. 4, No. 12**

**E-Newsletter Editorial Staff:**

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**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**National Health Care Decisions Day--Training**  
**Saturday March 26th, 10 am, William Mitchell College of Law**

On Saturday March 26th from 10-11:30 a.m., in room 123 at William Mitchell College of Law, Professor Kim Dayton will offer a training program to all interested students who would like to effectively assist others to complete their Advance Healthcare Directives in accordance with Minnesota law. Participants will be qualified to assist other students, staff, and members of the public complete their own directives on April 14th, National Healthcare Decisions Day, from 9-5 in the Kelley Board Room.

The training is required for volunteers looking to assist during the April 14th event who have not received prior training. All lawyers, social workers, and health care professionals, and law students, who would like to attend, are welcome. Students who attended previous years' training are not required to attend, but are welcome if they would like a refresher.

If you cannot attend the training and would still like to participate during the April 14th event, please contact Lauren Fink ([lauren.fink@wmitchell.edu](mailto:lauren.fink@wmitchell.edu)) for available options.

Submitted by Kim Dayton  
William Mitchell College of Law Center for Elder Justice and Policy  
<http://www.neln.org>

**Opportunity to Participate in Research Project on Elder Law Mediation**

Jennifer Wright, Chair of the Elder Law Section and Professor in the Elder Law Practice Group (ELPG) in the Legal Services Clinic at University of St. Thomas School of Law, and Jacklyn Fox, advanced law student in the ELPG, are conducting research through a survey they have developed regarding practitioners' perceptions and experiences of elder law mediation in several different states. With your participation in this survey, they seek

to learn from the experiences of practitioners in Minnesota. This information will be used to help inform planning for elder law mediation practices in Minnesota and be published in a scholarly article or articles on elder law mediation that will feature analyses of the collected data. Any information you provide will remain anonymous and confidential.

Below you will find a link to click on to begin the survey. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XMGB2ML>

Jennifer and Jacklyn thank you in advance for your time.

Submitted by Jennifer L. Wright  
Associate Professor of Law  
University of St. Thomas School of Law  
[jlwright@stthomas.edu](mailto:jlwright@stthomas.edu)

### **LINK OF THE WEEK**

#### **IRS Releases Tax Guide for Seniors**

Last week, the IRS released a "Tax Guide for Seniors" for use in preparing 2010 returns. The publication describes what's new for 2010 and goes on to provide a general overview of selected topics that are of interest to older taxpayers, including taxable and nontaxable income, adjustments to income, deductions, and how to get tax help. Helpful charts translate difficult-to-understand information into easy-to-read visuals and a full index to the publication is included.

IRS Publication 554 is available through the IRS at: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf>

Submitted by Law Student Committee  
William Mitchell College of Law  
Ruthanne Vos, Committee Representative  
[ruthanne.vos@wmitchell.edu](mailto:ruthanne.vos@wmitchell.edu)

### **ELDER NEWS**

Bill aims to cut spending on health care for poor  
<http://www.startribune.com/politics/local/118135559.html>

Effect of federal budget cuts on Minnesota programs minimal, for now

<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2011/03/17/fed-cuts-minnesota/>

Paying a Stiff Price | Special Report: Millions spent on illegal Medicare reimbursements for Viagra and other erectile dysfunction drugs

<http://www.foxnews.com/on-air/special-report/transcript/paying-stiff-price>

Local view: Services for seniors deserve more money

<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/194334/group/Opinion/>

Investigation into Care Facility Sexual Abuse

<http://kaaltv.com/article/stories/S2019518.shtml?cat=10219>

### **MINNESOTA CASES**

*There are no Minnesota Cases to report this week.*

### **STATUTES, REGULATIONS, BULLETINS**

*There are no Statutes, Regulations, or Bulletins to report this week.*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND CLE PROGRAMS**

#### **Minnesota Bar Association**

#### **Immigration Law Section and AILA**

#### **Breaking Down the Barriers: Working with Non-English Speaking Clients**

March 28, 2011

[https://members.statebar.gen.mn.us/eSeries/source/Meetings/cMeetingFunctionDetail.cfm?section=Events&product\\_major=IMM28MAR11&functionstartdisplayrow=1](https://members.statebar.gen.mn.us/eSeries/source/Meetings/cMeetingFunctionDetail.cfm?section=Events&product_major=IMM28MAR11&functionstartdisplayrow=1)

#### **Hennepin County Bar Association**

#### **Probate & Trust Law Section**

#### **A Review of Changes in the Guardianship and Conservatorship Laws**

April 25, 2011

<https://www.hcba.org/Calendar/Signup.aspx?EventNo=3546>

#### **Minnesota State Bar Association**

#### **Probate & Trust Law Section Conference**

June 6 & 7, 2011

Contact Information: <http://www.minncle.org/seminardetail.aspx?ID=100641101>

### **ELDER LAW SECTION ACTIVITIES**

**MA COMMITTEE MEETING:** The next MA Committee meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2011. Topics for the meeting may be submitted to MA Committee Chair, Cathryn Reher, at [creher@mnelderlaw.com](mailto: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. Please be reminded that the meeting location is: Estate & Elder Law Services (formerly MAO Legal Services), Monroe Village, 1900 Central Avenue NE, Suite 106, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418. There are a few parking spaces behind the building and lots of street parking. People should walk to the back of the building and come to the back door which faces directly into the meeting room.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL:** The next meeting of the Elder Law Section Governing Council will be 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2011, at Estate & Elder Law Services (formerly MAO Legal Services), Monroe Village, 1900 Central Avenue NE, Suite 106, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418. There are a few parking spaces behind the building and lots of street parking. People should walk to the back of the building and come to the back door which faces directly into the meeting room. For further information, please contact Jennifer Wright, Chair, at [jlwright1@stthomas.edu](mailto:jlwright1@stthomas.edu).

**ELDER LAW SECTION ANNUAL MEETING:** The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Elder Law Section will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, June 17, 2011, at the offices of Estate & Elder Law Services (formerly MAO Legal Services), located at Monroe Village, 1900 Central Avenue NE, Suite 106, Minneapolis. Please note the meeting date and location changes. There are a few parking spaces behind the building and lots of street parking. People should walk to the back of the building and come to the back door which faces directly into the meeting room. For further information, please contact Vicki McIntyre, Esq. at [vmcintrye2@yahoo.com](mailto:vmcintrye2@yahoo.com).

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**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://www.mnbar.org/sections/elder-law/index.asp>

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Please send E-Newsletter contributions by 10 p.m. on Sunday of each week to Marjorie Austin at [mj@mjaustinlaw.com](mailto: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](mailto: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/newsletter.asp>.

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