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**To:** [Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov](mailto:Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov)  
**Date:** 5/12/2015 9:27:09 AM  
**Subject:** New Issue of *Bifocal*: Health decisions resources, pro bono rep payee project, and more

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Dear Subscriber:

The April issue of *Bifocal*, e-Journal of the ABA Commission on Law and Aging is now available on the [Bifocal homepage](#).

You can read the issue online or download the pdf.

## What's inside this issue?

### [Six Key Steps of Advance Care Planning](#)

By Charlie Sabatino

These six steps from the Director of the ABA's Commission on Law and Aging will help direct you and your clients on the path of advance care planning.

## Articles

### [Health Decisions Resources](#)

The Commission's Health Decisions Resources webpage hosts resources for consumers, attorneys, and advocates. Here is an excerpt from our popular flyer Health Decisions Resources, which directs readers to information that will assist in discussions and decisions about advance care planning.

### [POLST: Advance Care Planning for the Seriously Ill](#)

By Amy Vandembroucke, Susan Nelson, Patricia A. Bomba, Alvin H. Moss

Advance care planning helps ensure patient treatment preferences are documented, regularly updated, and respected. There are two documents used to record these preferences: advance directives and Physicians Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) forms. These two documents differ in many ways; however, they can work together in approaching end-of-life planning.

### [Social Security Seeks Pro Bono Lawyers to Meet Need for Representative Payees](#)

By Janet Truhe

When selecting a representative payee, SSA usually considers trusted family members or friends. For many beneficiaries, however, this traditional network of support is not available, and it can be difficult for SSA to find other responsible people to serve.

### [Book Review | Betrayed: The Legalization of Age Discrimination in the Workplace](#)

By David M. Godfrey

This book is a call to action for strengthening the protections against age discrimination in the workplace. At a time when an increasing number of older workers want or need to remain in the workforce because of longer lifespans and economic pressures, age discrimination in employment laws are weak and have been systematically weakened.

### [National Guardianship Network Names State Courts for Guardianship Improvement WINGS Awards](#)

Provides Funds to States to Boost Adult Guardianship Efforts

### [June 15th is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#)

Commission resources, ideas for raising awareness, and a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Event

## Inside the Commission

### [Annual NLRC User Satisfaction Survey](#)

Tell us how we are doing by taking a brief, ten-minute online survey.

### [Upcoming Commission Webinars](#)

Details about our two summer webinars: "VA Pension: Income Security for Veterans and Their Family" and "SSI: What Every Attorney Needs to Know"

### [2015 National Aging and Law Conference Update](#)

Registration is open; detailed Conference Program is online; scholarship deadline is June 1.

To subscribe to *Bifocal* or to submit news items or a manuscript for consideration, contact editor [Andrea Amato](#).

*Bifocal* is distributed six times a year to state and regional elder bar section and committee officers and members, legal services providers, elder law and other private practitioners, judges, court staff, advocates, policymakers, law schools and elder law clinics, law libraries, and to other professionals in the law and aging networks.

The mission of the ABA Commission on Law and Aging is to strengthen and secure the legal rights, dignity, autonomy, quality of life, and quality of care of elders. It carries out this mission through research, policy development, technical assistance, advocacy, education, and training on a wide range of law-related issues, including: legal services to older persons; health and long-term care; housing; professional ethical issues; Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other public benefit programs; guardianship; elder abuse; health care decision-making; pain management and end-of-life care; dispute resolution; and court-related needs of older persons.

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