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To:
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Subject: SC Bar Elder Law Outreach



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SC Adult Protective Services Report and Recommendations: A Pro Bono Analysis of the South Carolina Adult Protective Services System

In November 2016, AARP SC and Nelson Mullins issued a study that provided specific recommendations to ensure South Carolina's APS system meets the needs of the individuals served. The study included interviews with key stakeholders, a detailed survey of APS caseworkers and input from an advisory committee. [Click here to read more.](#)
The full report can be found [here](#).

Senior P.R.E.P (Planning Resources for Emergency Preparedness): Fire Safety

SENIOR P.R.E.P. is a program designed to raise awareness of the importance of individual emergency preparedness for South Carolina's senior population. It is sponsored by the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging (LGOA), in partnership with Walgreens and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD). [Click here to see the Fire Safety Brochure.](#)

Social Security and Veterans Affairs Partnership Means Faster Disability Decisions for Veterans

The Social Security Administration announced a new Health IT initiative with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) which enables all Social Security disability case processing sites to receive medical records electronically from all VA facilities. Veterans will receive a faster decision on their Social Security disability claims, and both agencies will save time and money with an automatic request through the eHealth Exchange. [Click here for more information.](#)

U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Releases Report - The Extent of Abuse by Guardians is Unknown, but Some Measures Exist to Help Protect Older Adults

GAO was asked to review whether abusive practices by guardians are widespread. This report describes (1) what is known about the extent of elder abuse by guardians; and (2) what measures federal agencies and selected state and local guardianship programs have taken to help protect older adults with guardians. [Click here to view the report.](#)

LEGISLATION

Release Dates for 2017 Pre-filed Legislation

Senate pre-filed bills will be accessible on December 13, 2016, and the House bills will be available on December 15, 2016. [Click here to view the pre-filed bills and resolutions as they are filed.](#)

U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging

On November 30, the Committee on Aging held hearings on "Financial Abuse of Older Americans by Guardians and Others in Power." To view the hearing or download the testimony, [click here.](#)

FREE LEGAL CLINICS

The South Carolina Bar sponsors free legal clinics around the state focusing on the following topics: Elder Law; End of Life Issues; Senior Issues; Powers of Attorney; Wills, Estates and Probate; and Senior Scams. You can find the schedule [here](#). For more information about the clinics, or to schedule a clinic for your organization, contact Debbie Morris at debbie.morris@schar.org.

Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our contact list by contacting Caitlin Watson at 803-576-3782 or cwatson@schar.org.