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Date: 12/11/2015 11:15:00 AM
Subject: Sneak Peek of Bifocal: The Living Will as Improvisation

Dear Subscriber:

As a subscriber to *Bifocal*, e-Journal of the ABA Commission on Law and Aging, you are being sent this exclusive sneak peek of an article from the December 2015 issue.

Sneak Peek

[The Living Will as Improvisation](#)

By Susan P. Shapiro

As hundreds of thousands of physicians stand poised to counsel tens of millions of Americans under Medicare, it is appropriate to reflect on the legacy of advance directives and ask how practitioners might best serve their patients as they anticipate life's end.

End-of-Year Giving

The Commission's mission is to strengthen and secure the legal rights, dignity, autonomy, quality of life, and quality of care of elders. We carry out this mission through research, policy development, technical assistance, advocacy, education, and training.

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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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