

From: Caitlin Watson <caitlin.watson@scbar.org>
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PUBLICATION

[Opt-Ed] National Healthcare Decisions Day, April 16, 2016: Advance Directives, by Katherine Gettys, Esq.

Ms. Gettys discusses the importance of all adults with decision-making capacity having both the information and the opportunity to communicate and document their future healthcare decisions. The theme for 2016 is "It Always Seems Too Early, Until It's Too Late." National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) exists to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning. NHDD is an initiative to encourage patients to express their wishes regarding healthcare and for providers and facilities to respect those wishes, whatever they may be. [Click here to read the full article.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Law Month (May 2016)

May is National Elder Law Month. This year, the Elder Law Committee and the South Carolina Bar will be celebrating Elder Law Month in several different ways. The SC Bar will be posting on Facebook and Twitter throughout the month with different facts and tips regarding elder law issues; there will be an article in the *South Carolina Lawyer* May publication regarding elder law issues; and attorneys will be presenting throughout the state on elder law issues to different groups. [Click here for a list of speaking engagements in which Elder Law attorneys will be participating in May.](#)

Look for more information on Elder Law month in next month's newsletter and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

SC State Inspector General Report on DHEC's CRCF Program Confirms Findings from P&A's "Still.... No Place To Call Home" Report

The State Inspector General (SIG) has released a report on the Department of Health and Environmental Control's oversight of Community Residential Care Facilities (CRCFs). There are 471 CRCFs serving 17,000 people across the state; the report focuses on small facilities with compliance issues. The report confirms the findings in P&A's 2013 report, "Still.... No Place To Call Home," that many residents live in filthy and dangerous conditions and that oversight is inadequate. [Click here to see the reports major findings.](#)

Senior P.R.E.P (Planning Resources for Emergency Preparedness): Access and Functional Needs

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 7 Tips: Advocating for Yourself and Family brochure.](#)

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