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To:
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Subject: SC Bar Elder Law Newsletter



PUBLICATION

New Option for Military Parents with a Disabled Child: The Disabled Military Child Protection Act, by Lauren Karp, Esq.

Ms. Karp provides an overview of the Disabled Military Child Protection Act, which was signed into law by President Obama on December 19, 2014, as part of the FY 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 113-291) and expanded the options available to military parents wishing to benefit a minor or adult disabled child. Click **here** to read the full article.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Law Committee is Seeking Comments

The Elder Law Committee (ELC) of the SC Bar, in cooperation with the SC Association of Probate Judges Article 5 Committee, has spent the last year working on recommendations to improve the process for appointment of guardians and conservators in SC Probate Courts. Starting in February 2015 and continuing until July 2015, the SC Bar publicized the ELC's goals for amending Article 5 of the Probate Code relating to guardianships and conservatorships, along with a list of changes being considered. The public had an opportunity to comment on those goals—and the comments were overwhelmingly favorable of the goals established by the SC Bar. All comments were considered, and many of the suggestions made by the public were incorporated into the drafted changes to Article 5. The completed code, with all of the drafted changes, is available **here**. You may also find a list of the established goals with some of the recommended changes relating to each goal by **clicking here**. Written comments may be sent by e-mail to article5comments@scbar.org or mailed to the South Carolina Bar, Attn. Caitlin Watson, P.O. Box 608, Columbia, SC 29202. **Comments must be submitted by March 11, 2016.**

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule: South Carolina Statewide Transition Plan

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has made available for public review and comment the revised draft of the Statewide Transition Plan, as required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule (42 CFR 441.301(c)(6)). The revised South Carolina Statewide Transition Plan will be submitted on March 31, 2016. Click **here** for the draft and information on how to provide comments.

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

EVENTS

Bridging the Gap: A Free Community Expo for Caregivers and Professionals

Join Bridges on April 17, 2016 from 1:00- 5:00 p.m. in celebration of National Healthcare Decisions Day. The Expo will take place at the Mt. Pleasant Waterfront Park (Cooper River Room & Lawn). Click **here** for additional information. Registration is free!

FREE LEGAL CLINICS

The South Carolina Bar sponsors free legal clinics around the state. There will be various clinics throughout the month of March focusing on the following topics: Wills, Estates and Probate; End of Life Issues; Powers of Attorney; and, Social Security and SSI Issues. For more information about the clinics, or to schedule a clinic for your organization, contact Debbie Morris at debbie.morris@schar.org. You can find the schedule **here**.

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.