Elder and Disability Law NEWS

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VA Pension Planning Under the New Regulations: Two Years in the Rearview Mirror

On December 1, 2020, Donald D. Vanarelli,(**http://VanarelliLaw.com/**) presented at the 22nd Annual Elder and Disability Law Symposium held via ZOOM Webinar by the New Jersey State Bar Association Elder and Disability Law Section and the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education.

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VA Welcome Kit Adds 10 New Guides for Veterans and Their Families

Getting the most out of your VA experience begins with understanding what VA can do for you.

Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors can use the newly updated VA Welcome Kit to learn about VA benefits and services.

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2021 Elder Law Fact Sheet

Every year we release the key dollar amounts that are frequently used in elder law, estate administration and special needs trust planning, including Medicaid figures, Medicare premiums, Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income.

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Ethics Board: Lawyers May Respond To Negative Online Client Reviews, But "Don't Say Too Much"

Lawyers who claimed that former clients posted false, misleading, and/or inaccurate statements about the lawyer on online reviews asked the Attorney Ethics Board, formally known as the New Jersey Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics (NJACPE), whether they may publicly respond to these negative online reviews.

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Five Safeguards to Consider Adding to Any Power of Attorney for Finances

Misuse of a power of attorney is one of the primary tools of abuse and exploitation. Agents on powers of attorney overstep their authority or breach their fiduciary duties.

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Court Dismissed Fraud Claim Against Company That Provided Assistance to Medicaid Applicants

A U.S. district court dismissed fraud claims based on the unauthorized practice of law against a New Jersey company that provided assistance to Medicaid applicants, ruling that the estate of a nursing home resident did not provide evidence that the company misled the estate about performing legal work for it.

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Annuities and Medicaid Planning

Immediate annuities can be ideal Medicaid planning tools for spouses of nursing home residents. Careful planning is needed to make sure an annuity will work for you or your spouse.

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Medicare Premiums to Increase Slightly in 2021

Medicare premiums are set to rise a modest amount next year, but still cut into any Social Security gains. The basic monthly premium will increase $3.90, from $144.60 a month to $148.50.

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Ability to Withdraw Money Early from Retirement Plan Without Penalty Expires at the End of the Year

If you are experiencing financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic, you may want to consider withdrawing money from your retirement account while you still can. The special exemption allowing early withdrawals without a penalty ends soon.

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What to Look for When Choosing a Medicare Advantage Plan

As Medicare premiums rise, a Medicare Advantage plan can seem like an attractive option. But if you are considering switching from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, you need to know what to look for.

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