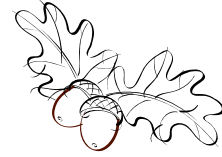


WYTYCHAK ELDER LAW NEWS

PO Box 1888, Coeur d' Alene, ID 83816, (208) 765-3595

October 2011- Issue 15

October Regards from Wytychak Elder Law



In The News:

- Wytychak Elder Law will be closed on Monday, October 10, 2011 for Columbus Day.



- The Alzheimer's Association will present "Providing Personal Care for People with Dementia," speaker Beverly Roots, LMSW, on October 12, 2011 at Sylvan House in Hayden, Idaho from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. No reservations are necessary! Contact the Alzheimer's Association at 666-2996 for more information.
- Medicare Part D enrollment dates have changed to October 15 to December 7, 2011!

What is Elder Law? By Kate Monroe Coyle

In honor of school going back into session this fall, I thought I would prepare a little quiz for our readers:



- 1) True or False: You have to be elderly to be a client here at Wytychak Elder Law.
- 2) True or False: Wytychak Elder Law will handle any type of case, so long as the client is considered "elderly."

One of the most common questions that we get in the office is "What is Elder Law?" The word "elder" makes it sound as if our only clients are considered to be elderly. Also, we get several calls a day which sound as follows: "I need to make an appointment, I'm eighty-five and I need to file a bankruptcy," or "I need a divorce lawyer, and I am seventy-nine years old." While the name "Elder Law" seems to imply that our only clients are the elderly, or that we can handle any legal issue so long that our client is elderly, this is simply not the case. In this article, I hope to educate you as to what "Elder Law" really means.



"Elder Law" is a legal term coined to cover an area of legal practice that places an emphasis on those issues that affect the growing aging population. Rather than referring to the specific age of our clientele, it refers instead to the issues that our firm is equipped to practice. While many of our clients are elderly, we also represent their families, or people who are not elderly but are facing some of the same issues that an elderly person

may face such as disability or the need for public benefits. So, in case you were curious, the answer to both of the questions posed above is **FALSE!**

Issues that are encompassed under the field of "Elder Law" are:

- Estate Planning (Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Living Wills)
- Probates and Trust Estates
- Guardianships and Conservatorships
- Medicaid and other entitlement programs (eligibility and appeals)
- Special Needs Trusts and Miller Trusts
- Assorted Tax, Real Estate, and Financial issues

When Elder Law began, there was no real name for it. In the last few decades, it has evolved into a thriving area of the law. The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) which is a national group of over four thousand attorneys across America, provides for workshops, seminars, and forums for attorneys from all over the country to connect and learn more. In November, Mike and Sheryl from our office are going to Boston, Massachusetts for a three-day conference hosted by NAELA to keep on the cutting edge of Elder Law. NAELA also sets the standards for who can call themselves an "expert" in Elder Law. Our very own Mike Wytychak is a Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) which means that he has been qualified as an expert by NAELA and has kept up with the standards which must be met in order to keep the certification.



So, let's try another quiz:

1) Can Wytychak Elder Law assist a twenty-five year old with creating a will? Answer: YES!

2) Can Wytychak Elder Law represent a ninety-year-old in a criminal action? Answer: NO!

I hope that this article has shed some light on what our firm does, and how we can help you, your friends, and family in the future. For more information, I encourage you to visit the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys website at [www. NAELA.org](http://www.NAELA.org).

"There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October."

- Nathaniel Hawthorne



If you haven't already done so, please take a look at our website at:

www.wytychakelderlaw.com

