

National Legal Training Curriculum 2018 Syllabus

● denotes Basics training ▲ denotes Advanced training

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Debt Collection ●	<i>A discussion of federal and state laws that protect vulnerable older adults from debt collection harassment and abuse.</i>	February 13
Exploitation, Frauds, and Scams ●	<i>Discussion of why older adults are targeted, the most common scams, including telemarketing scams, and resources to address them.</i>	April 10
Utility Disconnection ▲	<i>Advice for reconnecting older adults to utility service after disconnection, especially in the face of extreme weather or serious illness.</i>	September 26

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Social Security Administration Reconsideration Appeals ▲	<i>When reconsideration can be most effective, reconsideration appeal options, evidence to present, and common roadblocks and problems during appeals.</i>	March 21
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Resource Issues—Common Problems and Solutions ●	<i>SSI resource limits, including typical resources that can make an SSI applicant ineligible for benefits or cause the suspension or termination of a current SSI recipient's benefits.</i>	May 8
Veterans Benefits ●	<i>An explanation of Veterans Benefits with a focus on Non-Service Connected pension, an overview of Special Monthly Pension and VA extended care benefits, and an exploration of how VA benefits intersect with Social Security and Medicaid.</i>	October 9
SSI for Older Adults: Post-Eligibility Tips for Advocates ▲	<i>How to avoid and address common post-eligibility issues that impact older adult recipients, including In-Kind Support and Maintenance, resource restrictions, and out-of-country travel.</i>	November 28
SSI Deeming ●	<i>Deeming rules can cause the income or resources of another person to count towards an SSI applicant or recipient. A discussion of how deeming affects both the eligibility and benefit amounts of an SSI applicant or recipient with a focus on spousal deeming and sponsor deeming.</i>	December 11

ELDER ABUSE

Financial Exploitation ●	<i>Basic financial exploitation definitions, relationship to elder abuse, how to help prevent and protect clients. An overview of remedies available to older adults facing exploitation.</i>	January 9
Civil Litigation as a Remedy for Financial Exploitation ▲	<i>Understanding the common law civil remedies to recover assets or stop exploitation.</i>	February 21
Exploitation, Frauds and Scams ●	<i>A discussion of financial frauds and scams aimed at older adults and how to address them.</i>	April 10
Advance Care Planning to Minimize Risk of Exploitation ▲	<i>Guidance on drafting power of attorney and other advance planning documents to increase accountability and reduce the risk of abuse.</i>	April 18
Financial Exploitation and Medicare ▲	<i>Scams related to Medicare that target older adults, how these scams hurt seniors directly. May be a joint presentation with the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Resource Center.</i>	July 18
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren ▲	<i>Explores the legal rights of grandparents, impact of raising grandchildren on public benefits, and the impact of the opioid epidemic on elder abuse.</i>	October 17

GUARDIANSHIP

Overview of Guardianship and Alternatives to Guardianship ●	<i>An explanation of what guardianship is, when it is necessary, the process and due process. An overview of guardianship as the last resort and a look at alternatives to avoid guardianship.</i>	July 10
Restoration of Rights: Modifying or Terminating Guardianship ▲	<i>Due process, documenting improvements in capacity, presenting evidence of the sufficiency of alternatives to justify restoring rights.</i>	August 22
Using Supported Decision-Making to Avoid Guardianship ●	<i>Screening with the PRACTICAL Tool and using SDM to modify or terminate existing guardianships.</i>	September 12

HEALTH/LTSS

Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) ●	<i>Overview of how Part C works, relationship to Parts A, B and D, Medicare Advantage plan services, network limitations.</i>	March 13
Durable Medical Equipment (DME) ▲	<i>Coverage through Medicare and Medicaid for DME, coordination between Medicaid and Medicare, denials of coverage.</i>	May 16
Medicaid Appeals ●	<i>Due process protections in Medicaid, appeals process, kinds of decisions that can be appealed, problems older adults face and how advocates can address them.</i>	June 12
Financial Exploitation and Medicare ▲	<i>Scams related to Medicare that target older adults, how these scams hurt seniors directly. May be a joint presentation with the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Resource Center.</i>	July 18
Medicare Appeals ●	<i>Due process protections in Medicare, appeals process, kinds of cases that can be appealed, procedural challenges for older adults.</i>	November 13
Managed Care LTSS and Service Authorizations ▲	<i>Consumer experiences with managed LTSS, with a focus on coordination, assessments for personal care services work, restrictions on number of hours provided, and issues family caregivers face.</i>	December 12

HOUSING

Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Loans ▲	<i>An overview of the PACE loans for home improvements, explanation of the impact on property taxes, report of harm for older adults and recommended solutions.</i>	January 17
Disaster Recovery for Older Homeowners ▲	<i>Older homeowners are uniquely at risk during and after a disaster. An overview of issues that arise for older adults after a disaster, including the challenges of interacting with mortgage and insurance companies, and avoiding scams.</i>	June 20
Eviction Defense ●	<i>Preserving tenancy for older adults, including a discussion of reasonable accommodation.</i>	August 14