Seminar Agenda

Important Developments in Health Care, Long Term Care, and Payment Schemes
- G. Bickford
  - Deficit Reduction Act regulations
  - Annuities: Update
  - Application and submission rules

Medicare Update
- T. Berthelot
  - Medicare basics
  - Description
  - Enrollment
  - Medicare Advantage
  - Surge in enrollment
  - Pros and cons
  - Medicare updates
  - Payment of medications administered incident to physician's visit
  - Alternative payment methods for Part A care
  - Improvement standard
  - Observation status
  - Appeals process
  - Widespread fraud in hospice

Medicaid: Long-Term Care Planning, Estate Planning And Asset Transfers
- G. Bickford
  - History of Connecticut Medicaid program
  - Eligibility criteria
  - Covered services
  -Spousal impoverishment rules
  - Transfer of asset rules
  - Penalties and disqualification periods, transferee liability, exceptions

Financial Planning for the Elderly and Disabled
- G. Bickford
  - Asset protection: estate planning considerations
  - Exempt or excluded assets
  - Using trusts and advanced planning techniques
  - New legislative changes and potential problems

New and Expanded Restrictions on Medicaid Planning
- G. Bickford
  - Viability of asset transfers
  - Use of trusts
  - Use of annuities
  - Viability of Medicaid planning

Looking Ahead: What’s Visible on the Horizon?
- G. Bickford
  - Recovery?
  - Third party liability
  - Home care issues
  - Retroactive eligibility for home care

Learning Objectives

You’ll be able to:

- Learn about Medicaid eligibility, covered services, and asset transfer rules.
- Understand Medicaid application and submission rules.
- Analyze new and expanded restrictions on Medicaid planning.
- Review basic information on Medicare and Medicare Advantage enrollment.
- Discuss the Medicare appeals process and widespread Medicare fraud in hospice.

Connecticut Medicaid and Medicare Planning Update 2017
Cromwell, CT - Friday, February 24, 2017

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George B. Bickford
Law Offices of George B. Bickford, East Granby, CT
Mr. Bickford is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Connecticut School of Law. From 1974 through 1981 he was employed by Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc. During his last three years there he was director of the Senior Citizens Law Project covering North Central Connecticut. From January 1982 through October 1992, Mr. Bickford was a partner in the firm of Weed & Bickford (formerly Weed, Kernig & Bickford), engaged in the general practice of law. On November 1, 1992, he opened the Law Offices of George B. Bickford as a sole practitioner in East Granby, Connecticut and, since July 1, 2009, the firm has been known as the Law Offices of George B. Bickford, LLC. The firm consists of two attorneys and a highly-trained paralegal staff concentrating in elder law issues. For many years Mr. Bickford has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Bar Association, and he co-chairs the Elder Law Committee of the Hartford County Bar Association.

Terry Betheloth, MSW, JD
Mansfield, CT
Ms. Betheloth is a lecturer in the Human Development and Family Studies Department at the University of Connecticut. She received her Masters degree in Social Work (MSW) from Syracuse University in 1980, after which she designed, implemented, and then coordinated a joint commissioned accredited hospice program in the state of Mississippi. Finding herself fascinated by the legal and ethical questions surrounding death and dying, Ms. Betheloth pursued her law degree at the University of Mississippi. She interned at the Mississippi Office of Capital Post-Conviction Defense Counsel, and won the Christopher P. Charlton Memorial Scholarship, the Law Association for Women Award, and the Outstanding Student Award for Political and Civil Rights. Ms. Betheloth joined the Center for Medicare Advocacy in 2001 after graduating from law school, cum laude. She was with the Center for 14 years. As a senior attorney, Ms. Betheloth oversaw the Center’s advocacy efforts. She provided legal advice and representation to Medicare beneficiaries unfairly denied Medicare coverage or access, wrote articles for national publications, produced educational materials, engaged in educational outreach activities with a particular focus on the Medicare beneficiary, was a contributing author to the Medicare Handbook, and served as co-counsel for federal class action lawsuits challenging improper Medicare policies. Also while with the Center, Ms. Betheloth was the lead Medicare trainer for CHIEF, the Connecticut Health Insurance Education and Counseling Project, and for Connecticut’s Medicare Senior Patrol. Ms. Betheloth is licensed to practice in Connecticut and New York. She is a member of several professional organizations, including the Connecticut Bar Association, the National Association of Social Workers, and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA). Ms. Betheloth is a former chair of NAELA’s Health Care Section’s steering committee and former Connecticut liaison for National Healthcare Decisions Day.

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