

MassNAELA Informs Public, Addresses Concerns Regarding MassHealth Estate Recovery Requirements Notice

Will Host Informational Webinar on July 28, 2021 at 10 a.m. EDT, Including Remarks by State Senator Joanne Comerford and State Representative Christine Barber

BOSTON – July 8, 2021 – To provide clarity and answers to the public regarding the Estate Recovery Requirements Notice recently issued by MassHealth, the <u>Massachusetts Chapter of the</u> <u>National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys</u> (MassNAELA) will host an informational webinar on July 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. EDT, with remarks provided by State Senator Joanne M. Comerford and State Representative Christine P. Barber. The Webinar will include MassNAELA members and other advocates taking questions from attendees.

The MassHealth notice was sent in May to persons receiving MassHealth who may meet the requirements for Estate Recovery. MassHealth is required by law to seek repayment for the total cost of care services paid by MassHealth to members aged 55 and older and members of any age receiving long-term care in a nursing home or other medical institution if they leave a probate estate after their death. Any property or assets that are part of the probate estate are subject to Estate Recovery, which may apply whether or not the member is enrolled in a health plan.

MassNAELA has developed a seven-minute video explaining the notice, MassHealth Estate Recovery and the probate process, which can be viewed at <u>https://youtu.be/QKuMIFb4BJU</u>.

"Several of our members and legal aid colleagues have received inquiries about what this notice means for them," said Pamela B. Greenfield, 2021 president of MassNAELA. "As an advocate for seniors and disabled persons, MassNAELA is driven to ensure the public is as knowledgeable as possible on this matter. However, MassNAELA's goal is to educate the public, not provide legal advice. MassHealth members are urged to contact their attorney or they can find one on the MassNAELA website, <u>www.massnaela.com</u>, if they want to learn more."

To register and attend the free webinar with Senator Comerford and Representative Barber, please visit: <u>https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QjM_blxHR9qaOtv1qOhWOQ</u>.

About MassNAELA

The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA), the premier organization of elder and special needs law attorneys in the country, is dedicated to developing awareness of issues concerning the elderly and those with special needs. Around 450 attorneys are members of the Massachusetts Chapter. Members work directly with the elderly and those with special needs in areas as diverse as planning for catastrophic care costs, disability planning, age discrimination in

employment and housing, benefits planning, estate planning, veterans' benefits and more.

For more information about MassNAELA, visit <u>www.massnaela.com</u>.

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<u>Contact</u>: Beth Bryant bbryant@bbwrites.com 508-786-3013