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Member, National Academy
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NAELA 2004 INSTITUTE

Andrew Hook and William Oast attended the 2004 Joint Conference of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the National Guardianship Association and the National College of Probate Judges held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, from November 11th to November 14th. The joint conference was attended by over 700 elder law attorneys, members of the Guardianship Association and probate judges. Some of the highlights of this joint conference include:

- 2004 Wingspan Implementation Work Groups: Mr. Oast was invited to participate in the 2004 Wingspan implementation work groups. These work groups were charged with developing detailed action steps to assist states in promoting implementation strategies for a select number of guardianship and conservatorship recommendations from the 2000 Wingspan Conference. The work groups were asked to concentrate on the funding, training, accountability and monitoring aspects of guardianship and conservatorship issues.
- National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and National Elder Law Foundation: Mr. Hook attended meetings of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the National Elder Law Foundation. He is a member of the Board of Directors for each of these organizations. Both organizations adopted their 2005 budgets.
- Special Needs Trusts: Mr. Hook and New York elder law attorney, Bernie Krooks made a presentation on recent developments in the use of special needs trusts to protect the public benefits of persons receiving personal injury awards or settlements, property settlements in divorce cases, or inheritances. The program was attended by over 200 elder law attorneys.
- At the general session of the joint conference, William Colby, the lawyer who represented the family of Nancy Cruzan and the author of the "Long Goodbye: The Death of Nancy Cruzan," presented a program on advance directives entitled "From Cruzan to Schiavo: What Have We Learned?"

Announcement

Oast & Hook is proud to present our first workshop entitled: "Long-term Care: Issues and Answers." This workshop is open to the public. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Executive Center, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462, on Wednesday, January 26, 2005. For more information please visit our website at www.oasthook.com/workshop.php.

Oast & Hook

Oast & Hook is an Elder Law firm. We represent older persons, disabled persons, their families, and their advocates. The practice of Elder Law includes estate planning, estate and trust administration, powers of attorney, advance medical directives, guardianships, conservatorships, and public entitlements (Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, and SSI), disability planning, estate, gift and income tax matters, bill paying, care management, and fiduciary services. We also handle litigation involving these issues, such as will contests and estate administration disputes. For more information about Oast & Hook, please visit our website at www.oasthook.com.

Oast & Hook is the Virginia member of the Special Needs Alliance, a nationwide network of disability attorneys. As members of this alliance, we assist personal injury attorneys in resolving their cases to enhance the judgments and awards of their disabled clients and to maintain the eligibility of these clients for SSI and Medicaid. We are experienced in protecting the public benefits of persons with special needs and in assisting with the management of their assets. For more information about the Special Needs Alliance, visit its website at www.specialneedsalliance.com.

Distribution of This Newsletter

Oast & Hook encourages you to share this newsletter with anyone who is interested in issues pertaining to the elderly, the disabled and their advocates. The information in this newsletter may be copied and distributed, without charge and without permission, but with appropriate citation to Oast & Hook, P.C. If you are interested in a free subscription to the *Elder Law News*, then please e-mail us at eln@oasthook.com, call us at 757-399-7506, or fax us at 757-397-1267.

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