



# Sandoval's Soliloquy

## A Periodic Update for Financial Professionals of New Developments in Estate Planning, Elder Law, Asset Protection, Retirement Planning and Tax Planning

January 2008

**Dennis M. Sandoval,**  
A PROFESSIONAL LAW  
CORPORATION

*Providing Peace of Mind to  
Seniors, the Disabled and  
their Family Members*

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*Mr. Sandoval is the only  
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certified as a Taxation Law  
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Law Specialist by the  
California Bar Board of  
Legal Specialization as well  
as a Certified Elder Law  
Attorney by the National  
Elder Law Foundation*

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### *Life Care Planning – What Is It and Who Needs It?*

As my law firm approaches the end of its second year as the ONLY Life Care Planning Law Firm in Southern California, many financial advisors remain uncertain as to exactly what Life Care Planning is and how we can assist you and your clients. Life Care Planning is a process whereby the legal, healthcare, social and psychological needs of an elder or disabled person are assessed and a plan is developed to meet those needs in an economical fashion. This can range from assessing the long term care needs of a child with autism or Down Syndrome to assessing the immediate and long term care needs of a person that has been recently diagnosed with Alzheimers Disease, Parkinsons Disease, Multiple Sclerosis or a similar debilitating disease and then developing a plan to provide and pay for the needs of such individual. It could also involve assessing whether a frail elder can remain in the home, and if so, how best to obtain and pay for caretakers for the elder.

The law firm takes a team approach in developing these plans – our attorneys, geriatric care coordinator and paralegals consult with other legal professionals, financial professionals, health care professionals, durable medical equipment providers, insurance company personnel, employees of various government and charitable organizations, professional care providers and family members in order to determine, obtain and pay for the kind of care our clients deserve.

When should you or your friends and relatives consider using our services?

- ✓ When you want to assure that the needs of a Special Needs person are met after you are no longer able to care for him or her;
- ✓ When you or a loved one has been diagnosed with a chronic or acute ailment that will require an increasing amount of care in the future;
- ✓ When your loved one or acquaintance has suffered a stroke or been diagnosed with Alzheimers Disease, Parkinsons Disease or a similar cognitive impairment that is progressive and he or she wants to get his or her affairs in place before he or she loses the capacity to do so;

- ✓ Where you have notice a change in the spending patterns of an older family member or acquaintance and it is unclear where the funds are going;
- ✓ Where your friend or relative clearly lacks capacity and he or she needs to have a conservatorship of the estate or the person established by the court;
- ✓ Where the elderly or disabled person desires to continue live at home for the longest time possible and needs to find in-home caregivers and ways to pay for them;
- ✓ When there is disagreement among family members regarding the level of care and/or how to pay for the care needed by an elder or disabled person;
- ✓ Where there are no family caregivers in the immediate area to provide care giving or supervisory services;
- ✓ When you or your friend or relative desire to qualify for Veterans Aid and Attendance, Community or Long Term Care Medi-Cal; In Home Supportive Services or other government assistance programs and that person has too much income or assets to qualify;
- ✓ Where you or a loved one desire to protect the residence from the Department of Health Services recovering Med-Cal expenditures after the patient's death;
- ✓ Where a person has passed away and the family is looking for assistance with the administration of the person's estate; and
- ✓ Where family members or others have discovered that a child or other caregiver has persuaded a vulnerable person to change his or her estate plan at a time when the person is vulnerable to undue influence or the person's capacity was questionable.

***Give us a call at 951-787-7711 if you would like to further discuss Life Care Planning or any of the other legal services offered by Dennis M. Sandoval, A Professional Law Corporation – or if you would like to refer a client to us for a free, no obligation initial consultation that you are more than welcome to also attend.***

## **CMS Releases Medi-Cal Numbers for 2008**

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) has released some of its inflation adjusted numbers for 2008. These numbers are used in planning to qualify clients with Alzheimers Disease and other chronic illnesses for care in skilled nursing homes The Community Spouse Resource Allowance (“CSRA”) in California will increase from \$101,640 to \$104,400. This is the amount of non-exempt assets that a married couple can retain and still qualify for Medi-Cal. The Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (“MMMNA”) in California will increase from \$2,541 to \$2,610. This is the amount of joint income that can be protected for use by the spouse that is not in the skilled nursing facility. Plan to attend our Life Care Planning CE seminar on February 15 if you would like to learn more about Medi-Cal planning.

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The American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys (“AAEPA”) has some of the top minds in the industry working on these planning strategies. Mr. Sandoval has served as its Director of Education since 2000. The AAEPA has introduced the concept of Legacy Wealth Planning, a paradigm shift from the way most estate planning attorneys have traditionally approached planning for clients. Mr. Sandoval and the AAEPA are also currently pursuing a Private Letter Ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that, if approved by the Service, will change the manner in which most estate plans will be drafted in the future.

To learn more about how Dennis M. Sandoval, A Professional Law Corporation, can assist you and your clients with their estate planning needs, elder law and asset protection needs, call Carina at (951) 787-7711 to schedule a telephone conference with one our estate planning specialist attorneys. Also, you may want to visit our website at <http://www.protect-your-wealth.com> to learn more about Legacy Wealth Planning and to see a schedule of upcoming consumer seminars as well as CE seminars for financial professionals.

### 2008 Lunch and Learn CE Classes for Financial Professionals

Topic	Date	CE Credit *	Cost **
<b>Life Care Planning: What Is It and Why You Need to Know About It</b>	February 15, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Probate: What Financial Professionals Need to Know</b>	March 14, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Conservatorships: What Financial Professionals Need to Know</b>	April 11, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Protecting and Preserving Wealth for Beneficiaries Using the Access Trust™ and Sentry Trust™</b>	June 20, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Retirement Estate Planning: A Magical Mystery Tour of the Rules Dealing With Retirement Assets</b>	July 11, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>What You Don't Know (and Should Know) About Life Insurance Trusts</b>	August 15, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Planning for a Special Needs Persons: The Basics</b>	September 19, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>An Introduction to Charitable Estate Planning Strategies</b>	October 24, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Advanced Estate Planning: Squeezing Techniques</b>	November 21, 2008	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Advanced Estate Planning: Freezing Techniques</b>	January 16, 2009	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Domestic Asset Protection Trusts: All Hype or Veritable?</b>	February 20, 2009	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Business Succession Planning</b>	March 20, 2009	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>Asset Protection Planning for Doctors and Dentists</b>	April 17, 2009	1 hour	\$25.00
<b>What Financial Professionals Need to Know About the IRS (and FTB) Audit and Appeals Process</b>	May 15, 2009	1 hour	\$25.00

**Reservations Required!! – Call 951-787-7711 to reserve your space**

*Unless attendance requires a larger classroom, all classes will be held in the classroom at Dennis M. Sandoval, A Professional Law Corporation, located at 3233 Arlington Avenue Ste. 105 Riverside, California 92506 (corner of Division Street and Arlington (near Target Store and across the street from California School for the Deaf) -- Call for directions ( max attendance in classroom is 15 professionals))*

**\* Approved for one hour of CFP and California Insurance CE Credit  
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and classes adjourn at 1:00 p.m.**

**\*\* Cost includes CE credits and lunch**

**Interested in having Dennis Sandoval or Pamela Valencia conduct a private CE class for your office staff or speak before your professional group? Call 951-787-7711 now to inquire about his or her availability – their availability to speak is subject to a myriad of other business, professional and family commitments each have.**