THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS XX:

An Ongoing Reflection of Current Estate and Gift Planning Issues

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 | 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to announce Through the Looking Glass XX! This twentieth year of the Symposium will explore the latest trends in estate planning and charitable giving. As in the past, the event will offer the quality continuing education with your colleagues and dynamic speakers that you have come to expect.

This year's committee has done its best to listen to your past feedback and put together a schedule of prominent professionals to present areas of expertise including hot topics in tax reform, probate law, and recent developments affecting estate planning. We have brought together a phenomenal faculty of speakers to address timely and interesting challenges that we all may face in the year ahead.

The event will be hosted in-person.

The 2024 Through the Looking Glass Symposium is being presented once again under the auspices of the Conejo Valley Estate Planning Council, a member of the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils, in collaboration with the Center for Nonprofit Leadership at California Lutheran University and California State University Channel Islands.

Please plan to join us on Wednesday, January 17, 2024.

The cost is $175 before 1/10/24; $225 after. A limited number of spaces are reserved for students at the reduced rate of $50. The registration fee is included as a benefit for active members of the Conejo Valley Estate Planning Council for the 2024 calendar year.

For your convenience, you can register online at www.callutheran.edu/LG

Reserve your spot today!

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For Attorneys, CPAs, Financial Planners and Insurance Agents

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Presented By

Conejo Valley Estate Planning Council

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CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:
State Bar of California – 6 Hours
(1.25 in legal ethics and 1.25 in elimination of bias)

CFP Board – 7 Hours

California Board of Accountancy – 7.2 Hours

7:30 a.m. Arrival, Breakfast hosted by Ventura Coast Law

VENTURA COAST LAW

8:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

8:15 a.m. ***The Honorable Roger L. Lund***

Ventura County Superior Court

The Current State of the Probate Court

DESCRIPTION: This year's Symposium will kick-off with Presiding Probate Judge Roger Lund who will share thoughts and insights on the current state of our local Probate Court, including updates to his courtroom procedures as we continue to emerge from the COVID-19 epidemic. Judge Lund will walk through best practices and will illustrate his presentation with suggestions and stories emanating from his years of courtroom experience. This will be a nuts and bolts presentation, which advises the community of new courtroom procedures and how to best work with the Probate Court.

BIOGRAPHY

Judge Roger L. Lund was appointed Superior Court Judge by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in December 2009. He has handled all aspects of family law matters, elder abuse, domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders, criminal trial and arraignment courts, traffic trials, small claims, and unlawful detainer cases, and served on the court's appellate panel. Judge Lund currently serves as the Presiding Probate Judge.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Lund was in private practice for 13 years, handling wills, trusts, probates, conservatorships and guardianships, small business formation and advisement, real property transactions, and estate and income tax matters. During this time, he also served as a Probate Referee Assistant to Gregory R. Gose, California Probate Referee, assisting in the valuation of all kinds of probate estate assets.

Judge Lund received his Juris Doctor degree from Pepperdine University School of Law, and his undergraduate, Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Brigham Young University.

A resident of Ventura County for most of his life, Judge Lund is honored to raise his family here and to serve his fellow citizens as a Judge of the Superior Court.

9:15 a.m.

Melissa McMurdo, JD
Deputy District Attorney

Kellie Tyndall
Senior Victim Advocate

Ventura County District Attorney's Office

Elder Abuse and Financial Victimization

DESCRIPTION: Join Melissa McMurdo and Kellie Tyndall for an informative presentation on Financial Scam and Fraud Abuse Prevention, where we'll delve into the world of prolific scams, identifying red flags to identify potential scams, and providing invaluable tips to protect against scams and fraud. From imposter scams to financial abuse, we'll explore various tactics scammers and perpetrators employ to exploit unsuspecting individuals. The presentation will conclude with an overview of essential victim resources, including those offered by the Ventura County Family Justice Center.

BIOGRAPHIES:

Melissa McMurdo, JD received her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley and subsequently attended law school at Chapman University School of Law. In 2013, Ms. McMurdo joined the Ventura County District Attorney's Office as a deputy district attorney. Since that time, she has successfully tried dozens of jury trials, and has handled cases involving felony driving under the influence, robbery, drug sales, and domestic violence. She is currently assigned to the Family Justice Center. Outside the courtroom, Ms. McMurdo engages in significant public outreach to educate the community about domestic violence, the intersection of the criminal justice system and disability, and financial abuse prevention.

Kellie Tyndall is a Senior Victim Advocate and a steadfast advocate for seniors and adults with disabilities within the Ventura County District Attorney's Office. She actively participates in multiple multi-disciplinary teams, including the Financial Abuse Specialist Team, Rapid Response Expert Team, and Crime Survivors Roundtable. Kellie also regularly collaborates with Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Kellie's extensive knowledge and expertise extend nationwide as she educates advocates, community members, law enforcement professionals, and service providers on the critical issues of exploitation, abuse, scams, and fraud affecting our most vulnerable populations. Her presentations shed light on the often-overlooked link between vulnerability and abuse, using real-world examples, data-driven insights, and her personal experiences to highlight the formidable barriers that seniors and disabled adults face in accessing resources and breaking free from the cycle of abuse.

11 a.m.

Arthur Gross-Schaefer, J.D., C.P.A., Rabbi

Professor of Business Law & Ethics, Loyola Marymount University
Rabbi for the Community Shul of Montecito and Santa Barbara

Ethical Wills, Oral Histories, and Ethical Considerations: Protecting Legacies in Estate Planning

DESCRIPTION: As estate planning professionals, we often focus our attention on our client's beneficiaries, what and when they will receive their bequests, and how to plan around the various tax implications. This approach often misses the very real and important topic of our client's lasting legacy. This session will explore concrete tools necessary for ensuring the protection of client legacies and will include ethical considerations such as concepts of kindness, a caring heart, and materials that will continue to be supportive and loving, especially during difficult times. At the end of the session, each person will take away tools to work with clients and their families on how to effectively use an ethical will and oral histories as part of estate planning.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Gross Schaefer's diverse education is enhanced by his practical experience from practicing both law and accounting, and serving as consultant to various organizations. He is a professor of business law and ethics at Loyola Marymount University where he has taught for over 38 years. He has received numerous teaching awards including the prestigious university awards as teacher of the year and for outstanding service. He was listed by the Princeton Review as one of the top 300 university professors nationally.

He speaks around the country for State Bar Associations and State CPA Societies on professional and personal ethics. He also consults with law firms, hospitals, nonprofit and profit based organizations on issues of effective ethical decision making and values audits. He was the advisor to the LMU Peace Corps Project, an investment banker, and serves on many community organizations.

He is the founding Rabbi for the Community Shul in Santa Barbara and has served as a Hillel Rabbi for USC, UCSB and Loyola Marymount. He is the chairman of the board for a nonprofit honoring his son called the Avi Schaefer Fund. His wife, Laurie Gross, is an internationally known artist and liturgical consultant. He views his sons as his university.

12:15 p.m. **Lunch sponsored by Wells Fargo**

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1:00 p.m.

Michael Rosen-Prinz
Partner
Loeb & Loeb, LLP

Philip Hayes
Regional Wealth Advisor
Northern Trust

Directed Trusts in California: Better Late Than Never?

DESCRIPTION: California has finally adopted the Uniform Directed Trust Act, effective January 1, 2024, authorizing the use of directed trusts in California.

This presentation will provide a general overview of directed trusts and walk through the history and provisions of this new California law in contrast to directed trust rules in other jurisdictions. It will also discuss best practices for drafting and administering directed trusts, as well as potential areas of fiduciary liability.

BIOGRAPHIES:

Michael Rosen-Prinz is a partner in the Trusts and Estates Group at Loeb & Loeb LLP in the Los Angeles office. Michael maintains a broad trusts and estate practice, including planning for wealth transfer, family governance and business succession, and estate, gift and generation-skipping transfer tax matters.

Michael is a Fellow of the American College of Trusts & Estate Counsel (ACTEC), an Academician of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law (TIAETL) and the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee of the Trusts and Estates Section of the California Lawyers Association (TEXCOM). He is also the former Chair of the Trusts and Estates Section of the Beverly Hills Bar Association. He received his B.A. in Business Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley College of Law.

Phil Hayes is a Regional Wealth Advisor based out of San Francisco. He works exclusively on complex individual and family relationships for ultra-high-net-worth clients who desire a sophisticated, multi-disciplinary and multi-generational wealth plan.

With 20 years at Bessemer Trust, Phil served as Managing Director and Senior Fiduciary Counsel for the West Region. He was also the Deputy Trust Head at First Republic Trust Company, and a practicing trusts and estates attorney for ten years. Phil is a frequent speaker, having given an array of financial and estate planning presentations to professional organizations, and has been published in several academic law journals and CEB publications.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles and a J.D. degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law. Phil is a Fellow of the American College of Trust & Estate Counsel. Previously, he served as President of the San Francisco Estate Planning Council, Co-Chair of the Individual and Fiduciary Income Tax Committee, ABA Real Property Trust and Estates Section, and Executive Committee of the State Bar of California Trusts and Estates Section.

Phil resides in Oakland, California with his wife, Danielle, and their three daughters. His personal interests and passions include family, travel and UCLA athletics. Phil also plays the guitar, sings and enjoys performing.

2:15 p.m.

Edward J. McCaffery, Esq.

Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Los Angeles

Recent Developments Affecting Estate Planning

DESCRIPTION: Edward McCaffery will discuss the practical applications for current estate planning practices. He will also discuss planning opportunities and pitfalls going forward. As always, Ed will shed light on current developments relevant to practitioners and their clients.

BIOGRAPHY

Edward McCaffery is a partner and senior counsel in the Los Angeles office of Seyfarth Shaw LLP and is a member of Seyfarth's Business Services Department. Mr. McCaffery practices in the area of trusts and estates, taxation and intellectual property.

He is also the Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law at the University of Southern California School of Law, where he teaches classes in income taxation, property, corporate tax and partnership tax. From 1995 to 2006, Mr. McCaffery was also a Visiting Professor of Law and Economics at the California Institute of Technology, teaching public finance and law, law and economics, and law and technology (including intellectual property law).

Ed McCaffery's scholarship has been widely cited by economists, government officials, journalists and policy analysts. Among his publications are his recent books, *Behavioral Public Finance* (which McCaffery co-edited); *Fair Not Flat: How to Make the Tax System Better and Simpler*, which proposes a tax system based on taxing spending rather than income; and *Taxing Women*, which examines how working women suffer under current tax laws. Other publications include *Rethinking the Vote: The Politics and Prospects of American Election Reform*, which he co-edited.

In an effort to reach a wider audience to explain basic concepts of tax and public finance, McCaffery created the People's Tax Page and a series of animated cartoons featuring Sabrina the Unicorn. McCaffery is a frequent commentator on a variety of tax issues on CNN and The Huffington Post.

4 p.m. **Closing Remarks, Evaluations & Adjourn**