



## PAELA CLE ZOOM WEBINAR SERIES FOR PAELA MEMBERS

Wednesday, May 24, 2023: 12:00 Noon—1:00 PM

Register with PAELA Zoom Link

### “Unwinding a Public Health Emergency: DHS Perspective on Medicaid Eligibility After COVID”

*On January 31, 2020, the Secretary of Health and Human Services declared that a Public Health Emergency (PHE) existed due to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Shortly thereafter, the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) became law and allowed the States to claim a temporary funding increase for Medicaid as long as the States did not close or reduce Medicaid benefits for recipients who were enrolled on or after March 18, 2020. Three years have passed since these early days of the pandemic. This seminar will focus on the most up-to-date Depart-*

*ment of Human Services’ guidance on unwinding the now-ended PHE. The attorneys for the Department will explain how individuals who maintained eligibility during the PHE while over-resourced will be treated, when renewal dates and benefit closures can occur, and how overpayments of benefits will be addressed. This seminar addresses how eligibility for Medicaid will transition from the pandemic era to the new post-COVID-19 world in which we live.*

#### SPEAKERS

**Mark J. Newell, Esq., Senior Counsel** with the Governor’s Office of General Counsel, Department of Human Services (“DHS”) has been a member of the DHS Southeast Regional Legal Office for more than twenty-three years. Mr. Newell’s practice areas include Medical Assistance – Long Term Care (“MA-LTC”) and Special Needs Trusts (“SNTs”). Mr. Newell’s previous experience with DHS included working as an Administrative Law Judge for the Department’s Bureau of Hearings and Appeals. Mr. Newell is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. For more than two decades, Mr. Newell has lectured for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, county bar associations and other entities on various issues associated with MA-LTC eligibility and SNTs. Mr. Newell received his B.A. from Temple University and his J.D. from the Temple University School of Law.

**Lesley Oakes, Esq. Senior Counsel** returned to the Department of Human Services, where she was previously employed, after 14 years in private practice. She concentrated her practice in social security disability, contract and estate law, in addition to serving as a Mental Health Review Officer for the Orphans’ Court of Philadelphia, appointed by the Honorable Alex Bonavitacola in 2000. Since 2014, her practice areas have included medical assistance long-term care eligibility, trusts, third party liability and guardianship. Ms. Oakes is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania. She received her B.A. from the University of Richmond, paralegal certification from Villanova University, and J.D. from Widener

University School of Law. Ms. Oakes has been a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association since 1994.

**Anthony L. Marone, Esq.** is a partner of Harvey, Ballard, and Bornstein, L.L.C. and has extensive experience representing elderly and disabled individuals in a variety of matters involving Medical Assistance benefits, wills and trusts, estate planning, decedents’ estates, guardianship, and Special Needs Trusts in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Prior to joining Harvey, Ballard, and Bornstein, L.L.C., Mr. Marone was a partner at McAndrews, Mehalick, Connolly, Hulse, Marone, and Ryan. He joined McAndrews in 2014 as an associate, focusing on elder law and Special Needs Trust matters, and was eventually named a partner. Prior to 2014, he was an Assistant Counsel in the Office of General Counsel to the Governor of Pennsylvania. For seven years he represented various agencies of the Department of Public Welfare and was the Department’s primary litigator and appellate attorney for both Medical Assistance Long-Term Care issues and Special Needs Trusts issues in all the counties of eastern Pennsylvania. He advised the Department on numerous policy decisions and reviewed multiple bills from the Pennsylvania Legislature. Prior to joining OGC, Mr. Marone was a sole practicing attorney in Philadelphia for twelve years. Mr. Marone is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He received his B.S. from Drexel University and his J.D. from Temple University’s School of Law. Mr. Marone is an active member of the Pennsylvania Association of Elder Law Attorneys (PAELA). He was named the 2023 PAELA person of the year. Mr. Marone is also a veteran and retired from the military after 23 years of service.

#### FUTURE 2023 WEBINARS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

September 2023 “Determining Capacity to Execute a Power of Attorney” (date and speaker TBA)  
October 2023 “Living Wills, DNR and End of Life Decisions” presented by David Jaskowiak (date TBA)