



Chesapeake Currents

Volume I, Issue 4

Welcome to the fourth issue of Chesapeake Legal Counsel's e-newsletter, **Chesapeake Currents**. Today we start with an important message to anyone with college-age children. Then, from the agingcare.com site we look at several articles on topics including **Elder Abuse**, **Alternative Treatments for Alzheimer's**, and a **Funeral Checklist**.

Continuing that theme, there's a well-thought and often times humorous look at **Writing Your Own Obituary** from the New York Times.

Last issue's segment on **Leonard Bernstein** generated some wonderful responses, so to conclude today we've got a lovely piece from NPR on **Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man"**.

If there are other items you'd like to see included in future **Chesapeake Currents**, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our editor, Brad.

As always, if you, your friends or family have any questions, we would be happy to hear from you; we sincerely appreciate your business and your referrals.

Regards,
John F. Robbert



Coming Events:

John will be hosting FREE seminars on Estate Planning at the end of September and through October, in the Maryland and Delaware areas. Stay tuned for specific dates and times!

Before Your Child Leaves for School...

If you've got a child (or grandchild) about to head off to college, you need to be aware of a law which affects them called HIPAA, the federal law that protects the privacy of patients. While that's usually a good thing, it could be disastrous for you and your family if your child is hospitalized while at school. That's because in this situation, "protecting" your child's privacy actually means preventing their doctor from sharing information with you.

Yes, you read that correctly. **Once your child turns 18, it is illegal for a doctor to discuss their medical conditions**



with you—even during a life-threatening emergency. Even if you're still paying the bills. You may have read about this issue in Forbes Magazine a few years ago in an article titled, [Two Documents Every 18-Year-Old Should Sign](#). The two documents are a Durable Power of Attorney and a Health Care Proxy that contains a HIPAA Release.

These important documents will ensure that if your child is hospitalized, you will not be left out in the dark. Your child's doctor will be able to talk with you and you'll be able to make decisions on what type of treatment should be provided. If you need assistance creating these crucial items, our office is ready to assist!

pictured above: John's son Jeff with his then-girlfriend (now-wife) Amy, during their freshman year at Maryland University



What to Do if You Suspect a Senior Is Being Financially...

Elder abuse can be difficult to detect and investigate, so family members must be attentive to their aging loved ones' financial health. If you believe a senior is being exploited, act quickly and use the proper channels to file an official report.

[Read more](#)
www.agingcare.com



Evaluating Alternative Treatments for Alzheimer's and...

Interest in alternative treatments for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and other forms of dementia is growing almost as fast as the epidemic itself. Unfortunately, the search for a cure moves at a snail's pace, leaving families desperate for measures...

[Read more](#)

www.agingcare.com



Funeral Planning Checklist - AgingCare.com

Planning a funeral involves making decisions about a loved one's legacy while under considerable emotional stress. Understanding what must be taken care of and making arrangements in advance can expedite the process and minimize costs.

[Read more](#)

www.agingcare.com



Write Your Own Obit

Living With Cancer Far from seeming narcissistic, undertaking a self-obituary can be a form of summation and of caregiving for those who may be in need of direction after we are gone. The unexpected death of a treasured mentor brought home to me...

[Read more](#)

www.nytimes.com



On 'Fanfare For The Common Man,' An Anthem For The...

Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" begins with dramatic percussion, heralding something big and exciting. Then comes a ladder of simple trumpet notes, solemn and heroic. The whole piece takes less than four minutes to play, but its...

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www.npr.org