

Guardianships in the Healthcare Setting

Experienced practitioners and Orphans' Court litigators will present on obtaining guardianships in a healthcare setting to assist providers with healthcare decision-making and placing patients in the medically appropriate clinical setting. Frank Brier, Patrick Walsh, and Lisa Bothwell will cover the practice and procedure of obtaining a guardianship, highlight best practices, and discuss recent changes in the practice due to COVID-19. The presenters will answer the following questions:

- How do you ensure that guardianship is the least restrictive alternative?
- What does the Orphans' Court want to see in emergency and non-emergency petitions for guardianship?
- How do you prepare for a guardianship hearing?
- What should you expect during a guardianship hearing?

Frank Brier focuses his practice on all aspects of healthcare law, from corporate, regulatory and investigations to complex litigation. He has a wealth of knowledge and decades of experience from serving clients in private practice and as General Counsel and Litigation Counsel for Geisinger Health, an extensive healthcare system serving customers in Central and Northeastern Pennsylvania. Frank provides advice and advocacy to healthcare clients in relation to employment issues, insurance, professional medical liability, fraud and abuse, medical staff fair hearings, non-profit and health care compliance, electronic health records, peer review, privileging and credentialing, and professional licensing.

Patrick Walsh is an experienced litigator with a depth of experience in civil litigation and real estate matters. Pat has represented clients in hundreds of guardianships over the years, including contested guardianships. He has unique insight into the practice and procedure of guardianships due to representing plaintiffs as well as serving as court-appointed counsel for the alleged incapacitated person. Pat is an outstanding attorney who enjoys the respect of the bench, the bar, and the business community.

Lisa Bothwell focuses her practice on estate planning, estate and trust administration, elder law, and tax-oriented transactional matters for individuals and business entities. Lisa has represented provider and individual plaintiffs in guardianship proceedings throughout Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania. She has successfully obtained many guardianships, as well as helped providers find a less restrictive alternative to guardianship.