

TESTIMONY ON ELDER JUSTICE

BY LINDA PALERMO, ASLAP

My name is Linda Palermo I am a native of Connecticut, residing at present in Stratford where I have lived at my present address for 45 years. I am a nurse and have taken care of many patients senior citizens or not. However my forte was the elderly. In fact I cared for my mother in my home, who had excellent private insurance coverage as her primary care giver, for the last 9 years of her life, who passed at the age of 89. I was my mother's conservator, and the administrator of her estate without event. In my opinion taking care of the elderly at home is the best way to go that is you have the means to do so. My mom had to go into a nursing facility for physical therapy on three occasions, followed-up with home care and PT. The nurse in charge of the home care, would say under state law, the social worker has to make her visit to ask her if she wanted to go into a facility. You will have to turn over all your assets such as real estate, you'll get the best care. She would respond who made this law up? As many elder persons or not would say, no thanks I saw how they took care of my husband and mother was cared for; ask my daughter she will say the same no thanks she will keep me at home, out of harm's way, safe, dry, well groomed, feed well and let me be my own person and retain the things we worked for all of our lives away for the legal parasites. This is one example of making sure justice is served for an elder. Let's look at the other spectrum of so called Justice for the elderly. I also am a graduate paralegal, self-representing myself since 1982 in civil matters and have attended many probate hearings, witnessing involuntary/voluntary conservators, of the person, court appointed attorney's, guardian et Litem, family members and or their attorney's, one if not more having a total disregard for the intent of the Law, probate or not, or the opposing parties rights, cleaning out persons trust, financial assets, and real estate, approving cost for the above mention for attending probate hearings, and or civil matters and at times submitting the charge in some cases more than twice and disallowing and or not approving payment to family members who put in for living expenses which are vital for them to have a quality of life they worked for. Recently I heard an attorney (Sasso) in his all-out effort to prejudice and violate me, ask a

Judge to bar me from staying in and or attending a hearing in spite of the fact that I was a witness for the opposing party, and have submitted an affidavit in support of that opposing party, in total violation of probate Rule 16; the probate Judge denied his request so than he turned the pressure on asking the Judge have me remove my 2.1/2 year old Great-Grandson from the hearing which the Judge denied him as well I thank GOD for this act of "Elder Justice." Now, in my opinion, here is the bigger picture, why are our legislature allowing this type of "injustice" to carry on and on, and on. You propose legislation, make up the rules, and propose laws for Civil Cases and it is my feeling and belief you should take the Probate Court under your wings, and make changes in the Probate Court rules so that they fall under the "Civil" venue. Give the Elder and in some cases their family of Families the Justice deserved and deserve.

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