

AUGUST 2016

JULIE OSTERHOUT

*Emeritus Specialist in Elder Law
Of Counsel*

LANCE M. MCKINNEY

Certified Elder Law Attorney

HEIDI M. BROWN

Certified Elder Law Attorney

PHILIP V. HOWARD

Elder Law Attorney

If you have clients who need assistance with finding the right place for their ill family member to live and determining how to pay for it, ***we can assist them with becoming eligible for Medicaid.***

If you have clients who are unable to care for themselves and make their own decisions, ***we can assist their loved ones with becoming their guardian.***

Osterhout & McKinney P.A.
3783 Seago Lane
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Telephone: 239-939-4888
Fax: 239-277-0601
www.omplaw.com

E-Mail:
info@omplaw.com

DD WAIVER WAITLISTS MAY VIOLATE ADA

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has recently filed a statement of interest in the Ball v. Kasich case asserting that if an individual with development disabilities is placed on a waiting list for home-and community-based services, then this in and of itself may be evidence that the individual is “at risk for institutionalization,” which is a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)’s “integration mandate.” According to the DOJ, if the individual with developmental disabilities is not receiving these home-and-community based services, they “may have a claim that their rights have been violated.” Under the ADA, individuals who have developmental disabilities are supposed to receive services in the most integrated setting possible. In Ball v. Kasich, Disability Rights Ohio filed a lawsuit against the state of Ohio on behalf of people with developmental disabilities who already lived in institutions and those “at risk for institutionalization.” The plaintiffs allege that Ohio violates the ADA because it allows individuals with developmental disabilities to be placed immediately in an institution, but makes them wait for years to receive community-based services.

Source: [disabilityscoop
https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2016/08/30/waiting-list-may-violate-ada/22685/](https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2016/08/30/waiting-list-may-violate-ada/22685/)

MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY SHORTFALLS

According to the Trustees, Medicare’s hospital trust fund will be depleted in 2028 and Social Security’s trust funds will be depleted in 2034. Medicare’s financial outlook is becoming more bleak because of an increased use of inpatient hospital services, an increase use of high-cost drugs, a lower than expected increase in worker productivity, and a lower than expected growth of wages and payroll tax revenue. According to the Trustees, the costs of Medicare and Social Security “would grow faster than the economy ... because of the aging baby boom generation.” Social Security and Medicare payments comprise about 40% of federal expenditures.

Source: The New York Times
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/23/us/politics/medicare-social-security-trustees-report.html?_r=1