

P2 / Are you taking advantage of all the learning opportunities Takacs McGinnis offers each month?

P3 / In this month's guest column, a professional caregiving educator gets a harsh dose of reality.

the CONTINUUM

Issue 23 | Fall 2020

Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law, PLLC

104 Wyncrest Way, Suite 100 Hendersonville, TN

After 28 Years, We've Moved to Our New Home

Spacious offices provide easier access for clients and their families, plus COVID-19 protections

In July, Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law relocated from an older home on Walton Ferry Road to a spacious building at 104 Wyncrest Way in Hendersonville. The move, which wraps up a more than twelve-month construction process, represents the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the firm.

The firm worked with builder Milton Curtis and interior designer Trinity Scharett to make their vision a reality. On August 6, the firm celebrated with an official ribbon cutting ceremony.

"It is a dream come true to see the practice that I began in the early 1990s grow to what it has become today," said founding partner and attorney Tim Takacs. "At the end of the day, we help people take care of their moms and dads. There is nothing more rewarding than that."

Coming in at around 7,500 sq. ft, the building has three separate office suites, with Takacs McGinnis occupying about 4,200 sq. ft. Two smaller suites are available for rent by other businesses. "Though we haven't finalized who the tenants will be for the other two suites, our

goal is to rent those spaces to businesses whose products and services benefit our clients," said Chris Johnson, attorney and partner at the firm.

"When Tim and I had this dream, our vision was to invest in a building to better serve our clients," said attorney and partner Barbara McGinnis. "We are excited to expand our footprint in Middle Tennessee. Having a larger space allows us to host more community and professional education programs, and other special events."

The modern ADA-compliant design of the new building increases the comfort factor for clients and employees with push-button entryways, a larger waiting room, and spacious offices to more comfortably accommodate clients and the family members that they wish to have present. Coincidentally, the larger space also provides more social distancing for both guests and staff so everyone feels comfortable walking through the door.



Clients and friends gathered for an Open House on Aug. 6.

To celebrate, we are extending our Friend and Family Exclusive offer for 10% off coupon for renewal of our services if you refer a family to us and they retain us for our services. To qualify for this discount, the family must tell us you referred them to us when they schedule the appointment, the family must call in and schedule by the end of the year, and the family must retain us for services. Appointments only do not count.

We're delighted to be in our new home and look forward to seeing you soon.

The digital edition of this article contains more details, including pictures. Read it at <https://bit.ly/3j3wsyk>.

Team Tidbits

Congratulations, Joshua and Barbara!



Joshua Hunter

Public Benefits Specialist Josh Hunter has decided to pursue a law degree. You may know Josh through his assistance with VA Benefits and Medicare enrollment. Working with the Takacs McGinnis team has further fueled his passion for seniors and sparked his interest to serve this population in a different way. In May, he took the LSAT, did well, and enrolled in Nashville

School of Law. He is on course to graduate in 2024. Josh's hope is to continue working for Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law throughout law school and to continue as an attorney with the firm after graduation.

Certified Elder Law Attorney and partner Barbara McGinnis was tapped to serve as president for the Tennessee Chapter of NAELA (National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys). NAELA is a non-profit association whose



Barbara McGinnis

mission is to educate, inspire, serve, and provide community to attorneys with practices in elder and special needs law. In addition to this latest nomination, Barbara serves as Board Chair to Community Life Bridge (a Sumner County non-profit assisting senior adults with unmet needs). She also serves as past president of the Life Care Planning Law Firms Association and past chair of the Elder Law Section of the Tennessee Bar Association.



LearningCafé recap

CLIENT EDUCATION SERIES

Don't Miss Out on These Monthly Learning Opportunities

In addition to monthly Learning Cafes held exclusively for our clients, Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law hosts monthly webinars open to healthcare professionals, social workers, and the community at large. Topics covered so far include the different types of trusts, TennCare, and understanding durable power of attorney paperwork.

These webinars are free to attend and offer one hour of continuing education credit for social workers. Information on upcoming trainings can be found on our website.

Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law has also partnered with other organizations to host additional virtual educational events. Those

organizations include CPA firm Stone, Rudolph and Henry, TALS' Equal Justice University Conference, the Alzheimer's Association, and Buffalo Health Advisors. We do not charge for our presentations. To learn more about our educational events or to have us speak to your organization, please email dhentschel@tn-elderlaw.com.



Did you know that the digital edition of *The Continuum* often contains bonus content?

Email us at continuum@tn-elderlaw.com to subscribe to the digital edition.

If you know someone who might benefit from this publication, we encourage you to share it.

Guest Column

Respite on the Run

About three months ago, at 2:30 in the afternoon, my phone rang. The dreaded words that I had been preparing myself for happened. My father was being admitted into the hospital. It was serious, but the situation was caught early enough so it was treatable.

My father seemed fine with the admission, but there was one important issue: my father is a caregiver to my mom. My mother is a three-time stroke survivor. She has weathered a heart attack and a broken ankle. She had a colostomy bag inserted and then reversed—all within a five-year time frame. As the daughter, I try to make sure that my father is taking care of himself. As someone who works with those caring for and living with dementia and Alzheimer's disease, I know that my father has a 67 percent chance that something will happen to him, meaning that I would have to step in. I was not wrong. So, on a Thursday afternoon, I met my husband of two and half years at the door, grabbed a hastily packed bag, and went to my parents' house.

I had given my dad a break from caring for my mom in the past. I had an idea of the daily tasks, what she liked for breakfast, what medicines she took, and when she was to have a shower. If we are being honest, by caregiving standards, my mom is pretty easy. At times, I would show up and send my dad to the barn to tinker around or stay with my mother if he had to repair a piece of fence. My father and my

uncle sometimes play music for assisted living community residents and senior centers. Sometimes if they had a night function, I would stay with my mom so that dad could enjoy his time away and not worry or feel rushed.

When the call came, I was ready. I felt confident in my abilities and I knew what was needed. Or so I thought. Turns out I was wrong. I was exhausted after two days. My mother got up six or seven times every single night. She argued about how I prepared her breakfast, which clothes were clean, and even questioned her medication. On one occasion, I ended up calling my dad in the hospital so that he could speak to my mother. He had to assure her that I was dispensing the medication correctly. Now, just for a reminder, I educate and train caregivers. I talk with caregivers and provide helpful tips for caregiving. Every day I recommend that caregivers need to take a break. In this moment, I found myself praying to the all-powerful that I would never have to provide caregiving again. I asked myself, how on earth does my 79-year-old father provide this type of care every day?

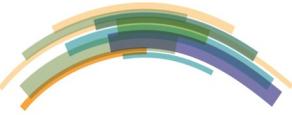
Six days later my father came home. I could not get back to my house fast enough. Now that I have real caregiving experience under my belt, I can say more than ever, if you are a caregiver, please take a break. Call a friend, take a walk, read a book, plant a tree... something. You deserve it! I am in

awe of your dedication, patience, and ability to stay focused, loving, and in control during times when there is disruption and chaos all around you.

I guess, in the end, I did not fail in caring for my mom. However, I do know that my mother and I both have a better appreciation for my father. I can also now understand why he was not that upset with having to be admitted into the hospital. He needed the rest.



Lynn Wood is a Certified Dementia Specialist who works as Caregiver Support Coordinator with Mental Health America of the MidSouth, a non-profit organization that has been providing services to Middle Tennessee for over 70 years. The organization's Caregiver Support Program has been active for more than 30 years and provides information, materials, and other resources to those caring for someone with dementia and Alzheimer's disease. For more information, call (615) 269-5355 or visit mhamidsouth.org.



TAKACS MCGINNIS
ELDER CARE LAW

104 Wyncrest Way, Suite 100
Hendersonville, TN 37075
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

***** NOTE: If you would like to be added to the mailing list for the digital edition of *The Continuum*, please call (615) 824-2571. *****

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NASHVILLE, TN
PERMIT NO. 3731



TAKACS MCGINNIS
ELDER CARE LAW

Timothy L. Takacs, CEIA, Partner

Certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation

Barbara Boone McGinnis, CEIA, Partner

Certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation

Chris Johnson, J.D., Partner

VA Accredited Attorney

Lisa Proctor, Bookkeeper

Pati Bedwell, Elder Care Coordinator

Debra King, LCSW, Elder Care Coordinator

Dana Hentschel, Outreach Coordinator

Joshua Bey, Public Benefits Specialist

Joshua Hunter, Public Benefits Specialist

Jennifer Berkon, Paralegal

Chelle Guidry, Legal Assistant

Cathy Danton, Receptionist

The Continuum is a quarterly newsletter designed to enhance the service Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law, PLLC provides to clients. Please direct feedback, questions and comments to continuum@tn-elderlaw.com.

Phone: (615) 824-2571

Fax: (615) 824-8772

www.tn-elderlaw.com

www.facebook.com/takacsmcginnis

www.twitter.com/takacsmcginnis

www.linkedin.com/company/takacs-mcginnis-elder-care-law

Information contained herein may contain general explanations of laws. It should not be considered as legal advice. Please seek counsel from an attorney regarding legal planning.
Copyright 2020