The Florida Bar CLE Committee and the Elder Law Section present

**Elder Law Guardianship**

Friday, June 28, 2019, 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

**COURSE CLASSIFICATION: INTERMEDIATE**

Course 2952  lreithmiller@floridabar.org

**AGENDA**

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.  Check-In

8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.  Welcome and Introductions

8:10 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  **Guardianship vs. Guardian Advocacy**
When can/should you seek a guardian advocacy instead of a guardianship?
_Michelle Kenney, GAPS Legal, PLLC, Sunrise_

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.  **Exploitation Injunctions in Guardianship**
How can you stop the exploitation of a vulnerable adult quickly, and even remove an exploiter from the vulnerable adult’s life?
_Shannon Miller, The Miller Elder Law Firm, Gainesville_

9:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.  Break

10:05 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.  **Guardianship Jurisdictional Issues and Guardianship Law Update**
As more people move into Florida, visit family, and travel, how do you know when jurisdiction is right in Florida?
_William Johnson, William A Johnson, P.A., Melbourne_

---

**ElderCounsel**
Excellence in Elder Law and Special Needs

**Guardian Trust**
10:55 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. **Ethics in Guardianship**
What are the ethical obligations of the attorneys representing the parties in guardianship?
-Collett P. Small, Slater & Small PLLC, Pembroke Pines

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Wrap-Up**

**SPEAKERS**

**MICHELLE R. KENNEY** is a founding member of GAPS Legal, PLLC. GAPS Legal, PLLC was created to serve the specific legal needs of the guardianship, advocacy, probate, planning and special needs communities. Prior to obtaining her JD from NSU Shepard Broad College of Law in 2016, Michelle served vulnerable and disabled individuals in South Florida in various roles since 1994, with over 19 years in the guardianship community. She was the Executive Director and a Professional Guardian for a non-profit corporate guardianship program where she administered over 100 guardianships and monitored the agency operations that ensured quality care for her clients and their families. She is a Florida Supreme Court certified circuit civil and county mediator and is an instructor for the guardianship courses in Broward County and online across Florida. Michelle has been an educator for the National Guardianship Association since 2007 and served as a Board Member for the organization for four years. Ms. Kenney is a past president of the Center for Guardianship Certification, the Florida State Guardianship Association and the Broward County Guardianship Association and has served on various committees for these organizations with a focus on education and increasing professionalism. She is a current member of the Florida Bar and the Broward County Bar Association and serves as a committee member for the Florida Bar Elder Law Section’s Guardianship Committee. She is a current board member of the Florida Justice Technology Center and serves on the advisory board for Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad College of Law Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Law Clinic. Ms. Kenney has been published in *The Caucus*, the Broward County Bar Association *Barrister*, and has participated in the development of most of the curricula used in Florida for guardianship trainings. Michelle has facilitated educational offerings at the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys Elder Concert for several years and recently presented at the Family Café in addition to various local and online presentations. Since 2001, she has provided over 1,500 of hours of guardianship education nationally and in Florida to close to 4,000 professionals and family members. She was a recipient of the Broward County Women Lawyers’ Association Rising Star Scholarship and the National Guardianship Association Outstanding Affiliate Member Award.
SHANNON M. MILLER is a Florida Bar board certified attorney specializing in Elder Law, in Gainesville, Florida. Shannon served as a drafting member of the Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults Workgroup, led by now Florida State Senator, Kathleen Passidomo. The drafted legislation was passed in the 2014 legislative session, and created groundbreaking tools for prosecutors and civil practitioners to crack down on the exploitation of our most vulnerable citizens. Shannon also assisted in drafting the Guardianship legislation further protecting Seniors in the 2015 legislative session. Shannon, as part of the Elder Law Section, created new legislation relating to injunctions for exploitation and freezing stolen assets, again with the leadership of Senator Passidomo and Representative Colleen Burton. Shannon has served as President of The Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys, serves on the Florida Joint Public Policy Task Force for the Elderly and Disabled, serves as Co-chairperson of the Legislative Committee of the Elder Law Section and a founding member of the North Central Florida Senior Advocacy Network, which is comprised of dedicated stakeholders determined to work together to stop exploitation in North Central Florida. She was Elder Law Section Member of the Year for 2016-2017 for her dedicated advocacy to protecting the rights of Seniors and the Disabled.

WILLIAM A. JOHNSON, founder of William A. Johnson, P.A., is a graduate of the University of Florida Liberal Arts and Sciences College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. Mr. Johnson received his Juris Doctor in 1990 from the University Of Florida College Of Law and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1991. He is Florida Bar Board Certified in the area of Elder Law, and practices predominantly in the fields of estate planning, Medicaid planning, long-term care planning, guardianship, incapacity planning, will and trust litigation, and probate. He is a two-time winner of the Elder Law Section Member of the Year award. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Florida Bar (Elder Law Section; Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section), the American Bar Association (Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section) and the Brevard County Bar Association. He is also a member of the Florida Bar Elder Law Executive Committee and Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee. In addition, Mr. Johnson belongs to the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys, the Space Coast Guardianship Association, and the President of the Space Coast Chapter of the Florida State Guardianship Association. He served on the board of directors and as Chairman for the Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation and was the 2006 president of the Brevard Association of Human Services. Mr. Johnson was born in London, England in 1965.
Collett P. Small is the Immediate Past Chair of the Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar. Ms. Small is Board Certified by the Florida Bar as a Specialist in Elder Law. She obtained her Bachelor’s degree from Florida International University and her Juris Doctor degree from St. Thomas University School of Law. She currently serves on the Executive Council of the Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar, the Florida Bar Diversity and Inclusion Standing Committee and the Board of Directors for the Weston Bar Association. Ms. Small is past chairperson for both the Continuing Legal Education Committee and the Law School Liaison Committee for the Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar. Ms. Small writes articles that address elder law issues, and she frequently gives speeches and lectures in the community in the area of Elder Law. Attorney Small is very active in the community and is a former member of the School Advisory Counsel for Broward County Public Schools. She also volunteers at local law schools and serves as a mentor to law students and new attorneys. Prior to establishing her own firm, Ms. Small, worked as an insurance defense attorney in Palm Beach. She also worked as an intern with the Social Security Administration Office of Hearings and Appeals. Prior to law school Ms. Small enjoyed a successful career as a Bank Manager with two major financial institutions. When she is away from the office she enjoys traveling, competing in marathons, gardening and spending time with family.

**CLE Credit**

General: 4.0 hours  
Ethics: 1.0 hour

**Certification Credit**

Elder Law: 4.0 hours