

LAW OFFICE
RUTHANN P. LACEY, P.C.

Concentrating in Elder and Special Needs Law

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Ruthann P. Lacey, J.D., CELA, CAP

VITAE

Ruthann Lacey is an alumna of Trinity College and Emory University School of Law, is licensed to practice law in the State of Georgia and Washington, D.C., and is a Certified Elder Law Attorney. Her practice concentrates on planning for the unique and complex concerns of the elder population, and of children and adults with disabilities. She also acts as Trustee of Special Needs Trusts and Settlement Protection Trusts.

ASSOCIATIONS AND HONORS

Ruthann is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA), the Special Needs Alliance, a charter member of the Council of Advanced Practitioners, and a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Georgia Bar Association, and the Atlanta Bar Association. Ruthann has been selected as a “Super Lawyer” every year since 2006; was named one of the Top 50 Women Attorneys in Georgia in 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2019; was included in the Georgia Trend selection of Georgia’s Top Attorneys in 2012; was named a Legal Elite by Georgia Trend in 2015 and 2016; was named a Top Rated Lawyer in Georgia by Martindale-Hubbell in 2015 and 2016; was named as one of the Top Women Attorneys in Georgia in 2013; and was named as one of the Top Attorneys in Georgia by Atlanta Magazine in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021, and 2022, all based on surveys of her peers. Ms. Lacey has an AV rating in Martindale-Hubbell, was included in the 2013 Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers; has been listed as an AV Preeminent Attorney Martindale-Hubbell every year since 2015; has been listed in the AV Preeminent Attorney Martindale-Hubbell Judicial Edition every year since 2016; was honored as one of America’s Most Honored Professionals Top 1% in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019; was honored as one of America’s Most Honored Lawyers Top 1% every year since 2020; and was named an Avvo Top Rated Lawyer in 2021 and 2022.

BAR COMMITTEES

Ruthann is past chair of the Elder Law Section of the Georgia Bar, served on the Continuity of Law Practice Committee of the Georgia Bar, belongs to the Fiduciary Law, Elder Law, and Family Law Sections of the Georgia Bar Association, and is a Life Fellow with the Lawyers Foundation of Georgia. She is a member of the Elder Law, Family Law, and Small Firm Sections of the Atlanta Bar Association.

MEMBERSHIPS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Ruthann belongs to the DeKalb Estate Planning Council, is a member of the board of NETWorks Cooperative Ministry, and is actively involved with several volunteer and charitable organizations including Special Olympics Georgia and ALTA Wheelchair Tennis Leagues. She is a past Director of the National Elder Law Foundation, a past Manager of the Special Needs Alliance, serves as co-chair of the Publications Committee of the Special Needs Alliance, past chair of the Membership Committee of the Special Needs Alliance, and for 17 years served as a Trustee on the Board of The Georgia Community Trust.

LECTURING, SPEAKING AND PUBLICATIONS

Ruthann is an active speaker on the local, state and national levels, to both professional and public groups and organizations. Engagements include serving as Program Chair for nineteen annual Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia Special Needs Trust programs; presenting at various Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia programs; the Missouri NAELA Annual Elder Law Symposium; the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association Annual Convention; the 8th Annual Utah Elder Law, Estate Planning, and Medicaid Planning program; the 9th Annual Utah Elder Law, Estate Planning, and Medicaid Planning program; Stetson University Special Needs Trusts - The National Conference; serving as a guest Professor of Law at John Marshall Law School; serving on the faculty of Southern Trust School; presenting at the NAELA Symposium and at NAELA Fundamentals Day; facilitating at the NAELA Advanced Practitioner's Program; the Alabama Bar Institute for Continuing Legal Education; the Tennessee Bar Association; Medicaid Irrevocable Qualified Income Trust Training; The Coca-Cola Company; the Financial Planning Association; Emory University's Senior University; the People's Law School; Georgia State University; Church groups; Civic groups; Alzheimer's Support Groups; and AARP Chapters. She also has been an Instructor of Estates, Trusts and Wills and Legal Research at the National Center for Paralegal Training, and is an editor and published writer.

Among other accomplishments, Ruthann has been published in the *Georgia Bar Journal*, *Family Law Quarterly* (a publication of the American Bar Association), *Georgia Probate Notes*, *Exceptional Parent*, *Money Matters*, *Inside Money*, *Senior News*, and *NAELA News*, edited the Medicaid chapters in *A Will is Not Enough in Georgia*, contributed to *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Long-Term Care Planning*, and *The CPA's Guide to Long-Term Care Planning*, has appeared as a guest on the *Clark Howard Show*, the *Layman's Lawyer*, *Money Matters*, *Inside Money*, *People to People*, *Professional Review*, and *Atlanta Issues*, has been mentioned in *Consumers Digest*, has been cited in *Elder Care and Nursing Home Litigation in Georgia*, and has been quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Atlanta Journal - Constitution*, *The Family Connection*, and the *American Bar Association Journal*.

