



Jim Koewler <jameskoewler@gmail.com>

Protecting Seniors News letter - February 7, 2014

1 message

The Koewler Law Firm <Newsletter@protectingseniorsnews.com>
Reply-To: The Koewler Law Firm <Newsletter@protectingseniorsnews.com>
To: Jim <protectingseniorsnewsarchive@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 7, 2014 at 9:00 AM

With help, seniors can keep some of their assets in the family rather than lose their entire life savings to the costs of long term care.

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Protecting Seniors News

When did Fredo die?

This is a follow-up to my newsletter article last week (January 31, 2014,) "[Family is the other F word.](#)"

Fans of The Godfather movies will recognize my reference to the tense relationship between brothers Fredo and Michael Corleone. (I use a movie reference because I can't very well talk about my clients this way, can I? I sure can't use names.)

When I make a presentation about how family strife makes long term care (as well as probate and estate planning work) difficult, I try to give an example that people will recognize. So, I ask the audience, "When did Fredo die?"

For those of you who are not fans of The Godfather movies, Fredo is the oldest son of crime boss Vito Corleone. Fredo, because of a childhood illness, has never been the sharpest knife in the drawer, so, despite his primogeniture (status as first born son - like the way the monarch of England is chosen,) Fredo does not become the new head of the family when Vito retires.

Instead, Vito chooses his younger son, Michael, to become the head of the family. (Remember, middle son Santino ("Sonny") has been killed by this time.)

Fredo felt slighted, and continued to feel slighted, because he was passed over. He resents

Michael's power, so, in *The Godfather Part II*, he conspires with another crime family to try to assassinate Michael. Michael eventually figures out Fredo's involvement in the assassination attempt, but promises not to do anything to Fredo while their Mama is still alive.

As you've probably figured out by now, after Mama dies, Michael has Fredo killed.

When Mama is no longer a reason to "keep the peace," the family disputes come to the surface.

Yes, I realize that *The Godfather* is fiction and that it's a crime movie. But, only the extreme violence of the disputes is different than in real life. All too often, family disputes come out when the parents can no longer keep the peace. When the parent and child roles become reversed, the difficulties of becoming caregiver to parents and the disagreements about how best to provide care often make other (sometimes decades old) hurt feelings erupt to the surface.

Suppose for a moment that Mama didn't die but suffered from Alzheimer's disease. Do you think Fredo would have lived? How does your family, and how do your neighbors' families, handle stress?

Social Media Posts from the past week

2-6-2014 Watch out for fake grandkids calling from out of the country #SeniorCare #Fraud (pdf) <http://ow.ly/rXU4Z>

2-5-2014 Caring for a family member may impact your job #SeniorCare #Discrimination <http://ow.ly/svCeS>

2-4-2014 #LongTermCareInsurance combined with a #LifeInsurance policy or an #Annuity <http://ow.ly/syW0p>

2-3-2014 How to evaluate #AssistedLiving facilities #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/t6P6B>

2-2-2014 Signs that your parent shouldn't drive any longer #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/t5YMy>

2-1-2014 New York Times editorial on end of life decisions #SeniorCare #Elder Law <http://ow.ly/t5Ykr>

1-31-2014 Family is the other F word #ElderLaw #SeniorCare <http://wp.me/p47F09-1W>

Older social media posts can be found in the [social media post archive](#) on the firm's website, ProtectingSeniors.com.

The Koewler Law Firm news

2-12-2014 Jim Koewler will present "Preventing Senior Fraud" at Lakewood Hospital. Continuing Education credit is available to Certified Case Manager, social workers, counselors, and nurses.

2-20-2014 Jim Koewler will present "Preventing Senior Fraud" at The Galaxy Restaurant in Wadsworth. Continuing Education credit is available to Certified Case Manager, social workers, counselors, and nurses.

5-14-2014 Jim Koewler will present the continuing education program "Helping Patients navigate Medicaid, Medicare, and Healthcare Changes" at the Cleveland Clinic. Continuing Education credit is available to Certified Case Manager, social workers, counselors, and nurses.

9-26-2014 Jim Koewler will present "Preventing Senior Fraud" at the meeting of Eldercare Professionals of Ohio at Heart Home Care in Euclid, Ohio.

Older items of firm news can be found in the [news archive](#) on the firm's website, ProtectingSeniors.com.

Jim's available presentations

- Preventing Senior Fraud (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, nurses, and Certified Case Managers)
- Legal Issues for People with Dementia (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Protect your Life Savings from the Costs of Long Term Care (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Veterans Benefits for Long Term Care (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Advance Directives – Powers of Attorney, Living Wills, etc. (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Buying Long Term Care Insurance Wisely (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Planning Ahead to Protect against Long Term Care Costs (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- “Protecting your Money when you need Long Term Care” and “Essential Estate Planning Considerations” (with free living wills for the audience)
- Myths about Long Term Care
- How to help your Parents Manage their Affairs

Upcoming meetings

2-12-2014 Medina County Senior Services Network, Medina County District Library, 8:00 a.m.

2-12-2014 Summit Senior Sales, Administrators and Marketers Association, Wesley Towers, 2:30 p.m.

- 2-13-2014 Lorain County Senior Services Network, Hospice of the Western Reserve, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-14-2014 Eldercare Professionals of Ohio, HCR ManorCare, North Olmsted, 9:00 a.m.
- 2-17-2014 Medina County Senior Services Network's Education Committee, Tres Potrillos in Medina, 11:30 a.m.
- 2-18-2014 UH Bedford Senior Network, Light of Hearts Villa, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-19-2014 PASS, Chagrin Falls Community Center, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-25-2014 Summit County Senior Services Network, Anthony Kucko Kertesz Funeral Home, 8:00 a.m.
- 2-25-2014 Professional Networking Group, Jennings Center for Older Adults, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-27-2014 Parma Hospital Senior Resource Network, The Heights Care & Rehabilitation Center, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-27-2014 Portage Senior Services Network, Coleman Adult Day Services, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-27-2014 The Association of Specialists in Aging, Mentor Senior Center, 8:30 a.m.
- 2-28-2014 Eldercare Professionals of Ohio, The Oaks of Brecksville, 9:00 a.m.
- 3-4-2014 Aging Services Network of Euclid, Euclid Hospital's Waltz Auditorium, 8:30 a.m.
- 3-5-2014 Stark Senior Services Network, Canton Baptist Temple, 9:00 a.m.
- 3-5-2014 Richfield Chamber of Commerce luncheon, The Taverne of Richfield, 11:45 a.m.
- 3-5-2014 Medina County Senior Services Network's Client Services Committee, Sully's 3:00 p.m.

Newsletter Archive

Past issues of this newsletter can be found in the [newsletter archive](#) on the firm's blog site, ProtectingSeniors.com.

Contact Jim Koewler

If you'd like to contact Jim, this newsletter has a dedicated [contact page](#) on the firm's blog site, ProtectingSeniorsNews.com.

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The Koewler Law Firm
P.O. Box 443
Richfield, OH 44286

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