



Special needs require special attorneys.

RUSSELL PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 7, 2008

Contact: William Whitaker
Office: 520.232.9840 / Cell: 520.419.5384
wwhitaker@russellpublic.com

SNA MEMBERS BEGLEY, CANELLOS, CO-AUTHOR BOOK

(TUCSON, Ariz.) – Special Needs Alliance (SNA) member attorneys Tom Begley Jr. and Angela Canellos co-authored the recently-released book *Special Needs Trusts Handbook* (Aspen Publishers, 2008).

Being hailed by some within the alliance as one of the definitive texts on special needs trusts, the book has enjoyed early success by selling out of its first printing.

“Prior to its publication, there was no comprehensive treatise on special needs trusts,” says SNA President Andrew Hook. “Tom and Angela’s book fills this gap in the legal literature.”

Special Needs Trusts Handbook is both direct and nuanced, staying mindful of not only a special needs trust itself, but those peripheral considerations that can be thorny and sometimes detrimental to the client.

Begley, a founding member of the SNA, says the book is designed to help not only attorneys dedicated to special needs advocacy, but personal injury attorneys, financial institutions, disability groups, and trust administrators.

From providing information regarding public benefits, to the wave of sales of structured settlements on the open market, to strategies regarding when to draft a special needs trust and when to look at alternatives, the book touches upon all meaningful aspects of the trade.

The New Jersey attorney Begley hesitated when the idea of penning a special needs trust book was raised with his publisher, “then I thought that someone ought to do it because it needed to be done.”

Begley enlisted the help of fellow SNA member Angela Canellos to co-author the book, and is quick to sing her praises.

“Angela has forgotten more about special needs trusts than I have learned in my lifetime,” Begley remarked. He also credits the Special Needs Alliance for significant support and information during the book’s composition.

“There were an awful lot of good discussions with other SNA members during the process. The diversity of legal scholarship was very helpful.”

The Wisconsin attorney Canellos said she and Begley “meshed well” during the writing process.

“I was impressed by Tom’s breadth of knowledge,” Canellos said. “Tom does more first-party trust work, and I do a lot of third-party trust work—although we do work in both—and we were able to pool our knowledge.”

- ### -

About the Special Needs Alliance:

The Special Needs Alliance (SNA) is a national, not for profit organization of attorneys dedicated to the practice of disability and public benefits law. Individuals with disabilities, their families and their advisors rely on the SNA to connect them with nearby attorneys who focus their practices in the disability law arena. SNA membership is based on a combination of relevant legal experience in the disability and elder law fields, direct family experience with disability, active participation with national, state and local disability advocacy organizations, and professional reputation. The majority have been certified as Elder Law Attorneys (CELAs) by the National Elder Law Foundation, the certifying entity for the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA).

For more information about the Special Needs Alliance, or to locate a member attorney in your area, visit www.specialneedsalliance.com or call 1-877-572-8472.

- ### -