

## 30th Annual Elder Law Forum Agenda\*

**8:00–8:30AM Registration: Exhibitors and Networking, Coffee**

**8:30AM – Welcome from Louis Pierro, Forum Host and Founding Partner, Pierro, Connor & Strauss**

### **8:40–10:00AM State and Federal Legislative Update**

**Dr. Benita Zahn**, Certified Health and Wellness Coach, conducts a lively conversation with lawmakers: Will the policies and funding levels truly support New York's aging and disabled populations? How will proposed federal staffing and spending cuts to essential programs impact New York? What's at stake?

**Congressman Paul Tonko** joins us from Washington DC  
**NYS Senator Cordell Cleare**, Chair, Committee on Aging  
**NYS Assemblymember John McDonald III**, Chair, Committee on Governmental Operations. Member, Committee on Health  
**NYS Assemblymember Scott Bendett**, Member, Committees on Aging, Insurance

### **10:00–10:40AM Update from the Executive Branch**

Hear from **Greg Olsen**, Acting Director, NYS Office for the Aging, and **Willow Baer**, Acting Commissioner, Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, on new initiatives aimed at improving quality of life for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

### **10:40–11:00AM Coffee Break to Meet Exhibitors and Network**

### **11:00–11:40AM Medicaid Update from Valerie Bogart, New York Legal Assistance Group**

Get the latest on CDPAP, an expected home care lookback, and Medicaid funding changes in a rapidly evolving landscape.

### **11:40AM–12:40PM PACE: Is "All-Inclusive Care" a Model of the Future?**

Exploring the growth and impact of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly—does the cost justify the benefits? What are the alternatives?

**Moderator Louis Pierro, Founding Partner, Pierro, Connor & Strauss**

**Michelle Mazzacco**, Executive Vice President, St. Peter's Health Partners  
Continuing Care Network

**Michael Flaherty**, Executive Director, Eddy SeniorCare PACE, St. Peter's Health Partners

**Linda Spokane**, President & Program Director, PACE at Hudson Headwaters

**Valerie Osborn**, Director, DSNP Strategy & Government Programs, MVP Health Care

**Becky Preve**, Executive Director, Association on Aging in New York

## **12:40-1:30PM Networking Lunch, Koi Pond at the Desmond.**

- Visit our Exhibitors and Quality for our Raffle
- Virtual Attendees – interact online over lunch

## **1:30-2:30PM Insuring Long-Term Care – Private/Public Alternatives to Medicaid**

A deep dive into payment strategies, from private insurance to emerging public models.

**Moderator: Louis Pierro, Founding Partner, Pierro, Connor & Strauss**

**NYS Senator Shelley Mayer**, Chair, Education Committee & Sponsor of Bill S1179, “New York Long Term Care Trust Act”

**Shawn Britt**, Technical Director, Advanced Consulting Group, Nationwide Insurance

**Robert Vandy**, President, Advisors Insurance Brokers

**Howard Krooks**, Chair, Elder Law Practice Group, Cozen O'Connor; Past President, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

## **2:30-3:30PM Medicaid Home Care in Transition**

Insights from industry insiders on MLTCs, NYIA, Fair Hearings, and Consumer Directed programs—what’s working and what’s not?

**Moderator: Aaron Connor, Managing Partner, Pierro, Connor & Strauss**

**Frank Hemming**, Partner, Pierro, Connor & Strauss

**Al Cardillo**, President & CEO, Home Care Association of NYS

**Valerie Bogart**, Of Counsel, New York Legal Assistance Group

**Sarah Grimes**, Director of Outreach and Community Relations, NYSARC Trust Services

**Suzanne Paolucci**, Owner and Operator, NY Care Consultants

## **3:30-4:00PM Q&A with Attendees and Closing Remarks**

**Louis Pierro**, Pierro, Connor & Strauss – Conference Host

-Raffle Drawing

*\* Times subject to change*