



## ABOUT THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLIANCE

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The Special Needs Alliance (SNA) is a national organization comprised of attorneys committed 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.

The SNA members have 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 a professional reputation. As a result, an SNA member will have an average of 18 years of relevant legal experience, with no member having practiced law for less than 5 years. Many 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).



## MISSION AND HISTORY

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The mission of the SNA is to maintain a professional organization of attorneys skilled in the complex areas of public entitlements, estate, trust and tax planning, and legal issues involving individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities. SNA is also active in public policy development and analysis, and a member of several coalitions, including the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD).

The SNA was formed in 2002 by a core group of prominent disability and elder law attorneys who recognized the unique planning needs of younger individuals with disabilities and their families. While the SNA now has members in 44 states, the organization continues to limit membership to those who meet its professional standards in the area of disability law and advocacy.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP

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### OFFICERS

**Jennifer L. Lile, President, CELA**, is a director and shareholder with [Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Company, L.P.A.](#), Canton, Ohio.

**Jefferey M. Yussman, President-Elect**, is with the firm of [Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP](#), d/b/a [Yussman Special Needs Law](#), in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Amy C. O'Hara, Vice President, CELA**, is a partner with the law firm of [Littman Krooks LLP](#), White Plains, New York and New York City.

**Mary E. O'Byrne, Esq., Treasurer**, heads O'Byrne Law, LLC, Timonium, Maryland.

**James A. Caffry, Secretary**, opened [Caffry Law, PLLC](#) in 2011 in Waterbury, Vermont.

**Robert Fechtman, Immediate Past President, CELA**, who practices special needs and elder law in Indianapolis, Indiana

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Robert F. (Bob) Brogan, CELA**, is president of the Brogan Law Group in Point Pleasant, New Jersey.

**Laurie Hanson**, with [Long, Reher, Hanson, & Price P.A.](#), in Minneapolis.

**Mary Alice Jackson**, of [Mary Alice Jackson P.C.](#), practices in Austin, Texas, and is also licensed Florida.

**Morris Klein, CELA**, practices in Bethesda, Maryland.

**Tara Anne Pleat, CELA**, co-owns the law firm [Wilcenski & Pleat PLLC](#), with offices in Clifton Park and Queensbury, New York.

**Bryn Poland, Esq.**, is a partner with [Mayo & Poland, PLLC](#), Baytown, Texas.

**Christopher W. Smith, Esq.**, of Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices, PLLC, Southfield, Michigan.

**Scott Suzuki** practices in Hawaii and was a gerontologist prior to law school.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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