

Deborah Ballins Schwarz, Esq.

Deborah Ballins Schwarz is a certified Trust, Estate & Probate specialist. She graduated from Loyola Law School in 1978 and was admitted to practice law in that same year. She later obtained her LLM degree in Tax from Loyola Law School. Mrs. Schwarz drafts and advises clients about wills, trusts, special needs trusts, powers of attorney for finances and advance health care directives. She has an extensive litigation background and handles contested conservatorships. Her practice also emphasizes advising on eligibility, asset preservation and recovery claim issues for Medi-Cal matters. Mrs. Schwarz also advises on Veteran's benefits. She is a member of the Academy of Special Needs Planners and the National Elder Law Association, and she serves as a Probate Volunteer Panel attorney for the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Theresa M. Pranata, Esq.

Theresa M. Pranata graduated Order of the Coif from Loyola Law School in 2001, and she was admitted to practice law in California that same year. She attended Loyola Marymount University as an undergraduate. Mrs. Pranata's practice includes drafting and advising clients about wills, trusts, special needs trusts, powers of attorney for finances, and advance health care directives. She also handles trust administrations, probates, and conservatorships. She has an extensive litigation background, and she has handled contested conservatorship proceedings. Mrs. Pranata serves as a Probate Volunteer Panel attorney for the Los Angeles Superior Court.

The Law Offices of

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Meeting estate planning needs including the challenges that face the elderly and disabled.

We at The Law Offices of Deborah Ballins Schwarz assist our clients in planning for their futures and providing for their loved ones. With compassion and respect, we help our clients address the health care rights and needs of a love one at a time of crisis and uncertainty.

Our Services:

- ❖ **Estate Planning:** Correctly drafted estate planning can be a management tool during life and a way to pass on your assets to your loved ones or charitable organizations consistent with your wishes. Estate planning documents may include Trusts, Wills, Powers of Attorney and Health Care Directives. Each is a tool to allow you to control the management of your assets.
- ❖ **Government Benefits Planning:** We work with individuals and their families to obtain government benefits such as community based and long term care Medi-Cal, Veterans benefits and SSI. We work with the well spouse to allow him or her to remain in the family home, while the ill spouse obtains Medi-Cal benefits to receive care in a long term care facility. We assist the well spouse in passing on assets to family without recovery by the state of California.
- ❖ **Addressing the Needs of the Disabled:** Special estate planning must be done to address the needs of the disabled. We prepare special needs trusts to allow family members to meet the needs of disabled loved ones without causing them to lose government benefits.
- ❖ **Conservatorships:** If estate planning has not been completed, or an individual is vulnerable to elder abuse, a court action is filed to manage the financial and personal needs of the senior or disabled individual.
- ❖ **Probates and Trust Administration:** After the death of a loved one, we assist the family by taking care of the legal and administrative tasks required to distribute assets to the beneficiaries.