## DUTTON CASEY & MESOLORAS P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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## Is Your Child with Special Needs Turning 18 (or Already Has?)

If so, you probably have many questions. You may be wondering:

- Should I apply for disability benefits through the Social Security Administration for my child?;
- Is my child eligible for Illinois Medicaid program benefits?
- Do the funds I and other family members set aside for my child's education impact his or her eligibility for SSI and Medicaid?
- Should I be appointed guardian for my child?
- What might happen if I do not have a guardian appointed for my child? and
- Do I need a Supplemental or Special Needs Trust for my child?

We can provide you with experienced advice on these and related issues. We can advise you regarding your child's eligibility for disability and Medicaid benefits, including Medicaid funded in -home services and the Community Integrated Living program. We can help you qualify your child for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid benefits. We can help you with the Medicaid application process. You may not realize when you can use an Illinois ABLE account to exempt certain funds from disqualifying your child from receiving SSI or Medicaid – we can advise you. If your child has substantial funds that are now available to him or her, for example, through inheritances or custodial accounts, we can prepare a Supplemental Needs Trust to protect those funds. We can also advise you on whether you need guardianship for your child, what might happen if you don't have a guardian appointed, and can represent you in petitioning the court to be appointed guardian. Last, but not least, we can advise you and prepare appropriate provisions for your child in your own estate plan.

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When you have questions related to elder or special needs law, think of the attorneys at Dutton Casey & Mesoloras. With over 130 years of combined experience, Janna Dutton, Kathryn Casey, Helen Mesoloras, Michaela Franco, and Amy Gjesdahl, Melissa Kallio, and Samantha Zullo are here to assist you, and those you care about.

Appointments are available in Arlington Heights, Chicago, Lisle, Skokie and Westchester, Illinois, via telephone or video conferencing.

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