

# Senior Resources Navigation Notes...

## **Top Ten Questions To Ask BEFORE Hiring An Elder Law Attorney**

1. Does the attorney provide a free initial consultation to help me determine what areas of help I need?
2. How long has the attorney been in practice?
3. Does the attorney's practice focus on a particular area of law?
4. How long has the attorney focused on the particular area of law?
5. Is the attorney a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys? Or a member of the Elder Law Section of the CT Bar Association?
6. Can the attorney assist in obtaining the maximum and most beneficial results that I wish to achieve so as to protect as much of my and my family's life savings as possible?
7. What kind of time frame am I looking at to resolve my issue?

### **The rest of these questions depend on what an individual needs:**

8. What educational background or experience does the attorney possess that qualifies the attorney to practice in the area of Disability Law, Elder Law, Special Needs Law, Estate Planning, Income, Gift and Estate Taxation Law, Medicaid Law, Medicare Law or Veteran Benefits Law?
9. Is the attorney accredited by the United States Veterans Administration as an Accredited Veteran Affairs Claims Attorney?
10. Does the attorney comprehend and regularly engage in Federal and State income, gift and estate transfer tax matters?

The answers to these questions will help you determine whether the attorney has the qualifications important for a successful attorney/client relationship and a successful resolution to your case.

In conclusion, a qualified Elder Law Attorney is an individual that possesses related experience (and possibly education) in Disability Law, Elder Law, Special Needs Law, Estate Planning, Income, Gift and Estate Taxation Law, Medicaid Law, Medicare Law and/or Veteran Benefits Law. Be sure to choose an attorney based on YOUR needs.

There is a difference between Medicaid law and Tax law, so consult an elder law attorney.

Find an attorney at [www.naela.org](http://www.naela.org) [www.ctbar.org](http://www.ctbar.org)

**Want help navigating the system? Call Senior Resources Agency on Aging**

**(860) 887-3561 (800) 690-6998**

