

President's Message

Estate planning in the current environment is complicated by the fact that we are not sure what we are planning for. Everyone is now resigned to seeing no action at all until after the November elections, and there is increasing doubt that there will be any resolution before the end of the year.

Regardless of how the tax debate will ultimately be resolved, there is no doubt that the lives of professionals working in the estate planning arena is much more complicated than it was in the past, and one major reason for that is the expanding definition of family and family relationships. "Blended" families are much more common than they were 30 years ago, and adding to this complexity is the issue of reproductive technology and the implications that this has for our understanding of personal and financial responsibility and liability. The topic of this month's presentation promises to be both fascinating and thought-provoking.

If you have not yet paid your dues for the current year, remember that the deadline for your dues is this week to ensure that you are included in the annual Members' Roster. Meanwhile we look forward to seeing you and your guests at this month's dinner.

- Valerie Neale

Dues are Due!
To pay online – go to the
Membership tab on the website...
www.epcdv.org

“Technotots – The Changing Nature of Family and Estate Planning with the Advances in Reproductive Technology”

Michael Ferguson will provide us with a lively and intriguing discussion regarding the need for estate planning evolution in light of medical advances. Mr. Ferguson is a founding partner of Ferguson & Berland. He is certified as a specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate law by the

Estate Council. He has served as chairman of the State Bar's Board of Legal Specialization and as chair of the State Bar's Estate Planning, Probate & Trust Law Advisory Commission. He has been recognized by the bar's annual C. Rick Chamberlain Award. Early in his career, Michael was Board Chairman and General Council for the Rockridge Health Care Plan – an Oakland CA based HMO serving predominantly medical population. Since 1994, Mr. Ferguson attended UC Berkeley as an undergraduate and earned a B.A. with honors in Economics. He has written an extensive chapter on Living Trusts, published as part of West's comprehensive text on California Trust Law (1999). He has assembled (and edited) extensive materials for various CEB classes on Ethical and Malpractice Considerations in Estate Planning and other Trust & Estate related topics, and have written and taught extensively on Drafting Wills & Trusts.

Wednesday, October 20, 2010

*Lafayette Park Hotel
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette*

*6:00 PM. Wine and Registration
6:30 PM Dinner and Speaker*

***Cost: \$40.00 dinner (preregister)
\$45.00 (at the door)***

*Reservations and cancellations must
be received by Monday,
Oct 18th at 1:30 p.m. to be assured of
a reservation.*

Please send your check today!

or

Pay with a credit card online

<http://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=epcdv>

or

call Bonni at:

925.686.4819

Welcome New Members

Jennifer George, Capital Group

Nathan Peruman, Velco Appraisal

Next Meeting

November 17, 2010