



Disability and Guardianship Project
Disability and Abuse Project

9420 Reseda Blvd. #240, Northridge, CA 91324
(818) 230-5156 • www.spectruminstitute.org

November 30, 2016

Ms. Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker
Executive Director
State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Withdrawal of Complaint Regarding PVP Training
Programs of the Los Angeles County Bar Association

Dear Ms. Parker:

I am writing on behalf of Spectrum Institute to withdraw its complaint regarding deficient training programs conducted by the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) for court-appointed attorneys who represent clients in limited conservatorship proceedings.

After speaking with George Leal, Director of Education Standards, and Patricia Lee, Special Assistant for Diversity and Bar Relations, it became clear that the State Bar is interested in improving access to justice for litigants with intellectual and developmental disabilities. However, it also became clear that the resources of the State Bar would be more effective in that regard if they were focused on the big picture rather than a local problem.

Therefore, Spectrum Institute is withdrawing its complaint against LACBA. Instead, it is asking the State Bar to convene a Workgroup on Limited Conservatorships to study and make recommendations on how judges, attorneys, and other participants in limited conservatorship proceedings can improve access to justice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in those and ancillary proceedings.

The draft of a resolution for the Commission on Access to Justice to Convene a Workgroup on Limited Conservatorships is being submitted today for consideration by the State Bar of California.

Respectfully submitted:

Thomas F. Coleman
Legal Director
Spectrum Institute
tomcoleman@spectruminstitute.org

cc: Mr. George Leal
Ms. Patricia Lee