



THE WEEKS' UPDATE

October 2016



**Celebrating
Down Syndrome
Month with people
in our community**

click [here](#) to read Austin's story

In the Issue:

- **ABLE Account Update**
- **Gift Tax Exclusion 101, Part II**

Congratulations

PRESS RELEASE: NORTH TEXAS Attorney Specializing in Estate Planning and Special Needs Trusts Elected as Vice Chairman of Statewide Disability Rights Group

Tresi Moore Weeks of Plano, Texas, has been elected as Vice Chairman of the Disability Rights Texas (DRTx) Board of Directors. She has served on the DRTx Board for

three years and is currently the Chair of the Board Strategic Planning Committee and a member of other Board Committees. Previously she was on the DRTx Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Advisory Council for four years, serving as Chair of the Council for two years. [READ MORE](#)



Please join The Weeks Law Firm staff in congratulating Tresi for this honor. We are so proud of you, Tresi, and we know your knowledge, experience and your heart for advocating for individuals living with disabilities will be a valuable contribution to this wonderful organization!

ABLE Accounts Update

Individuals with disabilities face a dilemma when they try to save money. The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act was enacted in December, 2014, to enable those with special needs to save money in an ABLE account without jeopardizing their eligibility for needs-based benefits. This new tool adds options for our clients with special needs, but does not replace other tools such as special needs trusts.

[READ MORE](#)



Gift Tax Exclusion 101, Part II

In “Gift Tax Exclusion 101, Part I”, we covered the basics of the Annual Gift Tax Exclusion’s general rule and the exceptions. In Part II, we’ll discuss the implications of excess (or taxable) gifting for the Lifetime Gift Tax Exemption and the Personal Estate Tax Exemption; each is set at 5.45 million for 2016.

[READ MORE](#)

Past Events

- **October 21, 2016 Overture Plano**

Tresi spoke on Probate and Estate Planning at Overture Plano on October 21st

- **October 22, 2016 Connecting the Dots Expo**

Tresi was a Keynote Speaker at the first annual Connecting the Dots Expo, Presented by Region 10. She spoke on Guardianships and Alternatives. The Expo was a great success; educators, service providers, and caregivers shared information about services, resources and supports available to families with children who have special needs. ****If you missed this great event, you'll have another chance to attend this great event and to hear Tresi on January 21st and February 4th (see flyer below for details)!***

- **October 22, 2016 Lewisville ISD Transition Fair**

The Weeks Law Firm attended the Lewisville ISD Fall Transition Fair, Saturday, October 22nd. The LISD transition fair provided a wonderful opportunity to engage with students and families who are looking for information about transitioning to adult life - we were so glad to be there!

- **October 22, 2016 Pediatric Office at Willow Bend**

The Weeks Law Firm provided education on Special Needs Planning at Pediatric Office at Willow Bend's Fall Festival. Games, Trunk or Treat, Bounce House, Vendor booths and silent auction made this a fun *and* informative event!

Upcoming Events

- **October 25, 2016 Allen ISD**

Tresi will be presenting on Guardianship and Alternatives to families

- **October 26, 2016 Free Family Legal Documents 101 workshop**

Join the Weeks Law Firm for a free workshop to learn what legal documents you need to protect your family. You must register to attend as seating is limited. Click [here](#) to register now!

Join Tresì for Her Presentation on Guardianship and Alternatives at the North and East Expo

For more information contact Lena Carrera at

lena@weekslawfirm.com



IF YOUR PRODUCT OR SERVICE BENEFITS PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, you should consider **connecting the dots** with us! Our expo would be the perfect opportunity to showcase your resources and services as well as connect with people who would most benefit from them.

2016 - 2017 Expo Dates and Locations																				
All events will be held 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM																				
West																				
Oct. 22 2016	Ranchview High School 8401 Valley Ranch Pkwy E Irving, TX 75063 Sponsoring LEAs: Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, Irving ISD, Grand Prairie ISD, Dallas ISD	East																		
		Feb. 4 2017																		
		Utley Middle School 1201 T L Townsend Dr Rockwall, TX 75087 Sponsoring LEAs: Forney ISD, Rockwall ISD, Royse City ISD, Sunnyvale ISD																		
South																				
Nov. 12 2016	Bessie Coleman Middle School 1208 E Pleasant Run Rd Cedar Hill, TX 75104 Sponsoring LEAs: Cedar Hill ISD, Dallas ISD, Duncanville ISD, Lancaster ISD, Life School Charter, Midlothian ISD, Red Oak ISD	Texoma																		
		Feb. 25 2017																		
		Hilton Garden Inn 5015 US-75 Denison, TX 75020 Sponsors: Bonham ISD, Denison ISD, Grayson Co. SSA, Sherman ISD, TCOG (Texoma Council of Government), Texoma Community Center, United Healthcare, Cigna HealthSpring																		
North																				
Jan. 21 2017	Region 10 ESC-Abrams Building 904 Abrams Rd Richardson, TX 75081 Sponsoring LEAs: Allen ISD, Dallas ISD, Garland ISD, Mesquite ISD, Plano ISD, Richardson ISD, Wylie ISD	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Non-Profit</th> <th>For-Profit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>North, South, East & West</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 event</td> <td>\$25.00</td> <td>\$40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 events</td> <td>\$50.00</td> <td>\$80.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 or more events</td> <td>\$75.00</td> <td>\$120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Texoma</td> <td>\$25.00</td> <td>\$40.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Location	Non-Profit	For-Profit	North, South, East & West			1 event	\$25.00	\$40.00	2 events	\$50.00	\$80.00	3 or more events	\$75.00	\$120.00	Texoma	\$25.00	\$40.00
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For more information call **Linda** at 972-348-1578, **Amy** at 972-348-1684 or **Sandy** at 972-348-1754

Connect the Dots Today! For details or to register, go to:

(NSEW) <http://goo.gl/SqESJ5> or **(Texoma)** <http://ctd2017.eventbrite.com/>

Helping Our Community While Having Fun!

The Weeks Law Firm was a proud sponsor of the Coventry Reserve's Annual Golf Tournament at Woodbridge Country Club. Rain did not stop golfers or volunteers from coming out and raise over \$50,000 for a great cause! Tresi Weeks is on the Coventry Reserve Board of Directors, and a great advocate for the special needs population. Coventry Reserve is a continuing education program for adults post high school. They are known for the beautiful pottery made by the adults and sold in their gift store. Please visit them in Wylie! Click [here](#) for more.





We Appreciate You!

"From the first conversation with Sherrie, I felt this was a compassionate and committed law firm. Everyone was very accommodating and made us feel like our needs were #1 to them. With each visit, this approach to helping us was reinforced. We NEVER felt like we were being rushed and Tresi and her staff went out of their way to get to know us. I feel like we have an extended family with the law firm."

L. G. Plano, Texas



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