

NEW Durable Power of Attorney Law in Georgia

On July 1, 2017, a new law affecting Georgia durable powers of attorney (for financial matters) will go into effect. The Uniform Power of Attorney Act is designed to minimize financial fraud and exploitation. Thus, “general” powers allowing an agent to “do anything the principal could do” may no longer be accepted by banks and other financial institutions. Banks do not have to accept any power of attorney; however, we have been assured that if a customer presents a power of attorney on the new statutory form, the banks will honor it unless there is evidence of fraud, misrepresentation or undue influence over the principal.

Although the statutory form, along with the Georgia code (law), is much better than the one before it, it does not specifically include protections for seniors who are aging and want to take measures to protect their assets in the event they could qualify for government assistance programs, like Veterans Benefits or Medicaid. In order to completely protect yourself, your new power of attorney must include certain “Special Instructions.” Thus, a “standard” form, even on the new statutory form, will not be enough for most seniors who care about protecting their families and their assets.

The Elder & Disability Law Firm of Victoria L. Collier, PC will provide a new statutory power of attorney, with appropriate special instructions, at a **33% DISCOUNT OFF our regular rates for advising, drafting, and executing a financial power of attorney during the months of June, July and August.** Call 404-370-0696 and speak with a Client Services Representative and tell them, “I’d like the new statutory financial power of attorney.”

Victoria L. Collier is a Certified Elder Law Attorney through the National Elder Law Foundation, and a Fellow of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Her entire firm is devoted to ensuring seniors age with dignity and grace.

CALL NOW to get your power of attorney updated to the new form so banks will accept it when your loved one needs to use it! 404-370-0696.



The Elder & Disability Law Firm
of Victoria L. Collier, PC

Confidence. Comfort. Care.

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements.

PROFILE OF AN ACTOR: LINDA DANZIG

By Judi Kanne

Linda Danzig’s smile lights the room when she talks about her time onstage with Jerry’s Habima Theatre, Georgia’s only theatrical company directed and produced by professionals that features actors with special needs.

Earlier this year, the company, based at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA), marked its 24th season with the staging of “The Wizard of Oz.” Danzig, age 66, played two roles, Robot Person and Jitterbug.

Danzig says she’s taken part in the company’s programs for 19 years. It only took one person (years ago) who suggested “people with disabilities could [and should] act.” And, immediately, Danzig decided to “give it a try.”

Since that moment, Danzig says she’s been in every show. Today, Jerry Habima’s Theatre plays to sell-out crowds.

With learning disabilities or physical challenges, Danzig likes to see people do more than what’s expected of them. Her colleagues on stage have Down syndrome, autism and other physical challenges (such as vision impairment) to overcome. She works at getting her theatrical friends to “come out of their shell,” she said.

Danzig learned to the best of her ability to overcome a speech impediment and some learning disabilities. She is proud of the nine years she worked at Chick-fil-A.

Currently, she also stays active by volunteering at Brighton Gardens of Buckhead, an assisted living facility. She said she “talks to the seniors and helps them with their projects” if she’s able.

Former special education teacher Susie Davidow has worked with the MJCCA programs for more than 16 years. At age 70, she’s already in retirement, but hopes to continue participating with some projects and volunteering as often as she can.

“Jerry’s Habima Theatre has my heart,” said Davidow in a telephone interview. The 2017 season of eight performances had just ended the night before.

The theater production is just one of the activities in the Blonder Family Department for Special Needs. Today, the Blonder Family Department comes through a generous endowment by (the late) Jerry and Lois Blonder.

The theater program, named for Jerry, creates a place for individuals of all backgrounds and abilities to socialize, learn, grow and deepen their connections to one another and the community.

“The word “habima” means “the stage” in Hebrew,” said Davidow. But for Jerry’s group, it means much more.

Danzig agrees.

Acting, she says, is one way to keep her from watching too much TV, and allows her to get to know other people. These are people who Danzig and her stage friends may not have otherwise met.

Every performance includes local actors and other stage professionals who offer to work with people with special needs. The audience’s reward is the opportunity “to open their eyes, ears and hearts,” said Davidow.

When asked about Danzig, Davidow said, “I adore her and she’s incredibly kind. She always takes time to ask about my family and looks out for others, whether on or off the stage. She’s a wonderful advocate for people with special needs to have more opportunities.”



COURTESY OF THE MJCCA