



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

## Practice Update I | *PUBLIC POLICY*

by Attorney Joan Reed Wilson

### THE CT NAELA PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

*In the ZOOM Where it Happens....*

By: Joan Reed Wilson, Committee Chair

In honor of March Madness, we are bringing you this Public Policy Half-Time Report, now that we are just about halfway through the 2023 Legislative Session. The Public Policy Committee has been meeting weekly via Zoom since January to discuss topics that we want to pursue at the State Capitol and to keep track of proposed bills that affect our clients and potential clients. Members of the Committee include Joan Reed Wilson, Chair, Halley Allaire, Vice Chair, Steven Rubin, Ed Lang, Lisa Davis, Amy Orlando, Kathleen Hayes, Erin Duques, Matt Stillman, Jack Reardon, Carmine Perri, and David Slepian. Our lobbyist from Sullivan & LeShane, Mike Johnson, joins us on every call to provide updates about the behind the scenes discussions and strategies for us to pursue. This is where it happens, folks! All of the state laws and policies that we advise our clients on are being discussed and developed here. And we have three months left, so it's not too late to join us!



Most notably this year, members of the Committee have discussed, initiated, testified for, and followed bills relating to an increase in the Community Spouse Protected Amount, exclusion of VA Aid & Attendance payments from “income”, the allowance of remote notarization in Connecticut, allowing Conservator compensation payments from applied income, the State lien and estate recovery changes, an Estate Tax adjustment to remove the “widow tax”, and a banking bill that would allow bank employees to freeze transactions if they detect fraud or financial exploitation. Ed Lang, together with Steve Rubin and Scott Rosenberg, have been spearheading this initiative to ensure that the bill has safeguards that we believe are important. Please read the accompanying detailed history and explanation by Ed Lang.

If you are interested in being in the zoom where it happens, please send an email to Joan Wilson at [jwilson@reedwilsoncase.com](mailto:jwilson@reedwilsoncase.com). We welcome new members! We meet from 9-10 am (and we often conclude early!) every Thursday, January – June.