

Disability and Guardianship Project

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July 1, 2020

Victoria King Chairperson California Law Revision Commission c/o UC Davis School of Law 400 Mrak Hall Drive Davis, CA 95616

Attn: Brian Hebert, Executive Director (bhebert@clrc.ca.gov)

Re: Capacity Assessments in California Conservatorship Proceedings

A Report to the Chief Justice, Governor, and Legislature

Dear Chairperson King:

The enclosed report is being sent to the California Law Revision Commission. We are requesting that the Commission consider conducting an in-depth study of capacity assessment standards and practices in probate conservatorship proceedings. Please consider this outreach to be part of the "public participation" that the commission welcomes.

As you will see from this report, there are major deficiencies in legal standards and assessment practices in the current capacity assessment system. Considering the purpose and history of the commission, a study of this area fits perfectly into your mission to assist the Legislature and Governor by examining California law and recommending needed reforms.

Please share the report and ancillary documents with commission members and staff. These materials are found online at: https://spectruminstitute.org/capacity/

Respectfully,

Thomas F. Coleman Legal Director