Comment: The following news stories about adult guardianship or conservatorship are being circulated by the Disability and Guardianship Project of Spectrum Institute to persons interested in guardianship and conservatorship reform. The stories are extracted from the Newsfeed of the organization’s Disability and Abuse Project. Many thanks to Debra J. Stemmler for her research and to Dr. Nora J. Baladerian for funding the Newsfeed service.

– Thomas F. Coleman, Legal Director

“The New Conservatorship Law Will Incarcerate and Steal from Unhoused People”
“SB1045 expands who can be ‘conserved’ in three counties in California,” said Susan Messner with the ACLU, who spoke at a town hall on this law recently held in San Francisco. “It is targeted,” she said, “at homeless people with psychiatric and/or addiction issues.” – Bay View – January 25, 2019 – (California) https://is.gd/0yd0xs

“Report: PA Taking Steps to Eliminate Elder Abuse” The court’s Advisory Council on Elder Justice in the Courts released its latest progress report, outlining efforts the judiciary is taking to combat elder abuse. The report highlights several efforts, including the development and implementation of a Guardianship Tracking System to give courts the ability to better monitor guardianships through a uniform statewide process. – The Sentinel – January 29, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) https://is.gd/RNOXLh

“Bill aims to rewrite state guardianship law.” A bill being proposed at the Roundhouse aims to protect the state's citizens placed under court-ordered guardianship. kob.com, January 18 (New Mexico) https://is.gd/GnclrF

“Akron attorneys team with Community Legal Aid, Akron Children's Hospital for Guardianship Project.” Local attorneys have partnered with a non-profit law firm to provide pro bono guardianship assistance to families of children with special needs. Buckingham, Doolittle and Burroughs, LLC and Community Legal Aid will guide clients through the process of transitioning their children with disabilities to adulthood and becoming their legal guardians. cleveland.com, January 19 (Ohio) https://is.gd/HA3g2D

“Lee Clerk of Court: Help us Uncover Guardianship Fraud” - Our Probate office audits more than 1,500 guardianship cases annually. If we suspect or detect fraud, waste or financial mismanagement, our Inspector General Department conducts enhanced guardianship audits and refers alleged criminal activities to the State Attorney’s Office for
further investigation and possible prosecution. – News- Press – January 15, 2019 – (Florida) - https://is.gd/WsalGw

New laws protect aging Kentuckians also reduce confusion- The first updated law amends KRS 210.290 and KRS Chapter 387 which detail guardianship proceedings. The objective of guardianship proceedings is to preserve individual dignity, respect, and independence of the aging and disabled Kentuckians who can no longer make certain decisions. – Insider Louisville – January 13, 2019 – (Kentucky) - https://is.gd/csz0cz

“Guardianship Reform After Investigation Hits 4 Year Mark” - Driving change is our mission at KTNV because we want to elevate Las Vegas making it a safer place to live for everyone. We launched a years-long investigation into massive abuses against the elderly and disabled. Now we're ready to tell you about the results – KTNV – January 11, 2019 – (Nevada) - https://is.gd/9bG0V5

“Ex-appointed Guardian Gets Prison in Nevada Elder Abuse Case” - A 53-year-old former court-appointed financial guardian who admitted stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from people assigned to her care in Las Vegas was sentenced Friday to 16 to 40 years in Nevada state prison in what prosecutors called the state's largest-ever elder exploitation case. – The News Tribune – January 4, 2019 – (Nevada) - https://is.gd/GGMEAp