

TWBM – AUGUST LEGAL NEWS

FINAL – 08.08.25

Senior Partner appointed to help ensure trusted financial advice for the elderly and vulnerable

A Senior Partner at industry leading law firm JE Bennett Law has been appointed an Advisory Board member by the leading organisation for ensuring trusted financial advice for elderly and vulnerable clients.

Ian Macara, of specialist Court of Protection firm JE Bennett Law, has been appointed by The Society of Later Life Advisers (SOLLA) because of his considerable experience in the legal landscape surrounding those experiencing the challenges of later life and finding themselves in vulnerable circumstances.

Established in 2008 as a not-for-profit organisation, SOLLA offers an accreditation that financial advisers can achieve to become specialists in working with older and vulnerable clients. The advisory board provides the Society support and guidance, including on the needs of SOLLA Accredited Advisers.

A SOLLA Affiliate Member, Ian is one of just sixty of the Office of the Public Guardian's (OPG) accredited Panel Deputies and one of only approximately ten of their Public Guardians. He is a fully accredited member of Association of Lifetime Lawyers (formerly Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE)), a fully accredited member of the Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners (STEP), a Dementia Friend with the Alzheimer's Society and a member of the Professional Deputies Forum (PDF). Ian is a Recommended Lawyer in the Legal 500.

Peter Barnett, SOLLA Advisory Board Chair, says: *"It is with great pleasure that I am able to warmly welcome Ian Macara of JE Bennett Law to the SOLLA Advisory Board. His wide experience as an accredited Panel Deputy for the Office of the Public Guardian, together with his longstanding experience as a practitioner in the legal landscape surrounding the elderly and vulnerable, will, I am sure, prove to be of tremendous value to both the Board and SOLLA more widely."*



In the broader later life landscape, our members and their clients will have the benefit of the breadth of his significant and varied legal experience and specialist knowledge, including acting with and for the vulnerable and potentially vulnerable in managing their legal, financial and care needs, thus ensuring better choices and outcomes for consumers more widely."

Ian Macara says: *"I am delighted to be joining the SOLLA advisory board. I have great admiration for the work SOLLA do and a long history of involvement with the Society, providing training, becoming an affiliate and now being invited onto the Advisory Board. As an experienced Court of Protection lawyer I am well versed in the challenges faced in later life with respect to financial and property affairs. Throughout my work – as an accredited OPG Panel Deputy, as well as frequently acting as professional deputy, professional attorney and supporting lay deputies and lay attorneys – it is my goal to improve the quality of support the elderly and vulnerable receive to help them manage their financial, property and health affairs.*

The JE Bennett Law team are also experienced providers of private client services for those in later life such as Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney and Estate Administration. The firm's ethos of empowering and supporting those in vulnerable circumstances aligns well with the values of SOLLA and I'm really looking forward to starting work on the Advisory Board to help shape the future."

Founder and Managing Partner of JE Bennett Law, Jane Bennett, comments: *"It is a testament to Ian's longtime commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for people in vulnerable circumstances that he has been chosen by the SOLLA Board to advise the organisation and its members. His dedication, expertise and experience will no doubt prove invaluable in helping to ensure that the elderly and vulnerable receive trusted financial advice."*

JE Bennett Law is a leading firm in its core expertise of Court of Protection, Power of Attorney and Personal Injury Trusts. It is recognised by the leading legal guide, Chambers UK, for Court of Protection: Property & Affairs (UK-wide), as well as being ranked in the Legal 500 as a Leading Firm for Court of Protection for the seventh year in a row, with individual rankings for four of the team.

A PHOTO of Ian Macara is available for you at: [Ian Macara](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION including interviews:

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