

HOLYOKE

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HCC to offer elder law and estate planning course

Attorney Karen G. Jackson, of Jackson Law, an elder law and estate planning firm, will teach a series of classes highlighting the latest developments in elder law and estate planning at Holyoke Community College.

The six-hour course, called "Elder Law and Estate Planning: What You Need to Know," will be presented in three, two-hour sessions, on Mondays, May 6, 13 and May 20, 6 to 8 p.m.

Jackson will present comprehensive subject matter on what she calls "The Core Estate Plan," in which she will explain core documents and provide stories and examples. She will also discuss "The Probate Court Process and Medicare Hot Topics" and "Community Care Programs and MassHealth Planning for nursing home care."

"The course will explain the basic building blocks of an estate plan and a plan for

home and nursing home care," Jackson said. "From that foundation, we will also consider the various specialized trust documents that support this planning. I will clarify the Probate Court process and what it means to 'probate a will.' And, finally, we will explore current MassHealth issues that are affecting seniors."

The material will be presented as follows:

■ In the first session, Jackson will explain each docu-

ment in the core estate plan. She will discuss the problems that can occur when proper documents are not prepared before a loss of mental capacity or physical health or before sudden loss of life;

■ The second session will address four areas: trusts; the probate court process; Medicare hot topics; and options for community care and home care. Jackson will provide pertinent information and details about each to assist you in your

planning now; and

■ In the third and final session, Jackson will introduce the various Medicaid programs that provide long-term skilled nursing home care in Massachusetts and the financial assistance associated with each.

While participants may attend only one session of their choosing, they must still pay the full course cost of \$89.

To register, call the college at 413-552-2500 or go online to hcc.edu/bce.