



Merrell Bailey Speaks at Estate, Trust, & Guardianship Committee

Maitland, FL – June 12, 2014 – Your Caring Law Firm, a boutique legal practice focused on probate, wills, trust and guardianship services, as well as business succession, asset protection and estate planning, today announced that managing partner Merrell Bailey spoke at the recent Estate, Trust & Guardianship Committee meeting. The meeting, hosted by the Orange County Bar Association, was held on Monday, June 9, 2014 in Orlando and was open to members of the association.

Bailey's topic covered the shape of the law one year after the U.S. Supreme Court case *U.S. v Windsor*. The case, which began in 2010, called into question whether Section Three of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was constitutional. This section previously supplied that the term "spouse" applied only to heterosexual couples and was declared unconstitutional on June 26, 2013.

"Some of my most complex estate planning clients are same-sex couples who are legally married in another jurisdiction, yet live in Florida," Bailey said. "Since the *Windsor* case, the federal government has recognized these marriages, but Florida does not. There are many preferences under Florida statute that are marriage-based. We can draft documents to achieve most, but not all, of them," Bailey explained. "Of particular interest to the Estate, Trust & Guardianship Committee is the potential clouded title to property that has transferred in Florida because the marriages have not been recognized, that would have had different owners had Florida recognized the marriages."

About The Orange County Bar Association

The Orange County Bar Association has been providing a way for local attorneys to meet and exchange ideas since 1933. Many of its members have achieved recognition for their professionalism, knowledge and integrity on the regional, state, and national levels. The association caters to attorneys in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties and offers a wide variety of programs to enhance their career and personal goals.

About Your Caring Law Firm

Your Caring Law Firm is a boutique law firm founded by longtime local attorneys Merrell Bailey and Hallie Zobel. Located in the heart of Central Florida, the firm offers probate, wills, trusts and planning services to clients throughout the region. With deep roots in the community, Your Caring Law Firm prides itself on its ability to deliver a rare combination of sophisticated legal advice that draws upon sound business, tax and accounting knowledge, while providing a caring, attentive environment for clients to make some of the most important decisions of their lives. For more information, visit www.YourCaringLawFirm.com.