



## The Weeks Quarterly©

The Law Office of Debbie Weeks  
telephone 623-933-4877 [www.weekslaw.com](http://www.weekslaw.com)  
Post Office Box #1731. Sun City, AZ 85372-1731

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

As we in Arizona reach a Covid-19 milestone today (expiration of the Governor's "stay-at-home" order), ours is a new world of precautions to keep the most vulnerable safe. Here are some updates for the loyal readers of The Weeks Quarterly©.

### **FTC Consumer Warning - Residents' Stimulus Checks Belong to the Resident**

The FTC has posted an article by its Elder Justice Coordinator, Lois Greisman, this morning. Ms. Greisman explains the unfortunate circumstance of complaints about some nursing homes and assisted living facilities taking Medicaid (in Arizona "ALTCS") residents' stimulus checks and allocating those to the facility. Here's what that FTC author says:

*"... those economic impact payments are, according to the CARES Act, a tax credit. And tax law says that tax credits don't count as "resources" for federal benefits programs, like Medicaid. So: when Congress calls these payments "tax credits" in the CARES Act, that means the government can't seize them. Which means nursing homes and assisted living facilities can't take that money from their residents just because they're on Medicaid. And, if they took it already, get in touch with your state attorney general and ask them to help you get it back."* For the full article and the FTC provided links including for filing a complaint, go to:

[https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/05/did-nursing-home-or-assisted-living-facility-take-your-stimulus-check?utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/05/did-nursing-home-or-assisted-living-facility-take-your-stimulus-check?utm_source=govdelivery)

### **Essential Services**

**The Law Office of Debbie Weeks Remains Fully Operational.**

Although the Governor's Executive Order expires today,  
this office continues to be vigilant in following all applicable CDC guidelines.

### **CDC Guidelines – "Community Mitigation Framework"**

For an informative CDC article and further resources on staying safe,

In English, Spanish, VietNameese, Chinese, or Korean, go to:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/community-mitigation.html>



## **Covid-19 Business Connections – A Shout Out to Some Colleagues**

HSP West (Human Services Professionals) videotaped some “stay connected” member videos, with thanks to Presley C. Reader | Owner & CEO, ComForCare for his patience in creating this undertaking! Also, the Vistancia Business Networking Group requested recent bios of its members. Thanks to Alex Akers of Equitable Advisors, LLC for orchestrating that effort! This law office was honored to participate in these projects to keep connected.

Both are available for public viewing, at VBNG’s Facebook Business page, AND:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/hspwestphoenix/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/hspwestphoenix/posts/?ref=page_internal)  
FOR HSP WEST’S VIDEO or ALTERNATIVELY,  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/78J\\_f-Grqzg3TN2U5gSDU\\_JxW9S7eq-shHMY\\_KcFxBuwU3VQM1PyZbASYef3kVlZD6bU7tBo--SMPHCh](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/78J_f-Grqzg3TN2U5gSDU_JxW9S7eq-shHMY_KcFxBuwU3VQM1PyZbASYef3kVlZD6bU7tBo--SMPHCh)

## **Arizona Attorneys Respond Initiative – Legal Hotline**

Attorney Weecks is pleased to be among the many volunteers registering to assist with the State Bar of Arizona’s temporary Legal Hotline launch. Training sessions are being held now and will continue as we gear up.

This effort of the State Bar of Arizona and its partners will be set up with volunteer attorneys fielding calls as a hotline operator, providing one-on-one legal consultations, or directing callers to appropriate legal information. A few of us have registered for the first shifts, beginning this Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and a “soft roll-out” to the public is anticipated. Details should be posted soon at [www.azbar.org](http://www.azbar.org)

## **Arizona Court Operations**

The courts continue to issue administrative orders and adjust their operations so that the important business of the judicial system may continue in a meaningful but safe manner. Kudos to the Maricopa County Bar Association for its continued generous hosting of town halls with various departments of the Superior Courts on which hundreds of callers participated. We have been learning about Zoom, GoTo, and other hosting platforms as the courts migrate to virtual conferences and hearings where indicated.

**In these unique times and among the Covid-19 challenges, The Law Office of Debbie Weecks continues to wish you and yours continued good health!**

**Attorney Debbie Weecks.**

623-933-4877 / [www.weecksllaw.com](http://www.weecksllaw.com)

