



# MA ELDER LAW BASICS

## YOU HAVE RIGHTS

### **GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP**

You have a right to request a lawyer in guardianship or conservatorship cases. If you cannot afford one, Massachusetts should provide one for you.

You have a right to notice of any guardianship or conservatorship proceedings involving yourself.

Even if you are under guardianship, you still have freedom of religion and to your religious practice.

### **HEALTH CARE PROXY**

You can designate who you want to make your health care decisions in case you are unable to make them. This is called a health care proxy.

### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

You can designate who you want to make your financial decisions in case you are unable to make them. This is called a power of attorney.

### **SAFETY & RESPECT**

You have the right to be protected from discrimination on the basis of LGBTQ status in public accommodations like medical offices and hospitals.

### **SELF-IDENTIFICATION**

You have the right to have your identity – including your LGBTQ identity – respected.

### **FACILITIES**

You have the right to use restrooms and other gender-differentiated facilities consistent with your gender identity.



# RESOURCES

Visit GLAD's website at <https://bit.ly/2HTcqVR> to see this list of services and resources.

## **BOSTON ELDER INFO**

<http://www.elderinfo.org>

## **DIVERSE ELDERS COALITION**

<https://bit.ly/2Jj41dW>

## **ETHOS**

<https://www.ethocare.org>

## **THE FENWAY INSTITUTE LGBT AGING PROJECT**

<https://bit.ly/2Jka55P>

## **GREATER BOSTON LEGAL SERVICES ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION PROJECT**

<https://bit.ly/2JnAuQy>

## **YOUR ELDER EXPERTS**

<http://www.yourellderexperts.com>

## **SAGE (SERVICES & ADVOCACY FOR GLBT ELDERS)**

<https://www.sageusa.org>

# **GLAD RESOURCES**

## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS | MASSACHUSETTS**

<https://bit.ly/2HTcqVR>

## **SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AFTER DOMA**

<https://bit.ly/2Hlx2Tm>

## **LEGAL PLANNING FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES**

<https://bit.ly/2HIV5rM>

## **GLAD ANSWERS**

<https://bit.ly/2Fb3NTG>