



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

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**June 16, 2009**

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**Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.**



09-139

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Janet James, Esq. – State Legal Services Developer, Public Guardian  
Program Coordinator

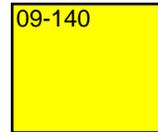
**DATE:** June 16, 2009

**SUBJECT:** **New Law Effective July 1, 2009 – You May Receive Questions**  
(Advance Medical Directives and Health Care Decisions Act  
Revisions; Senate Bill 1142 Acts of Assembly Chapter 268).

Senate Bill 1142 was signed into law March 27, 2009 (to be effective July 1, 2009) and makes significant changes to the Health Care Decisions Act and options available under Advance Medical Directives (AMD). There is also a significant impact to the Code of Virginia provisions regarding Guardianship and admission of persons to mental health facilities.

VDA is in the process of developing and obtaining materials for AAAs and the VDA website. However, we are sending this advance alert because you may receive questions regarding these new changes in the law. Some people may be concerned that their current AMD is no longer valid as of 7/1/09 and this is absolutely **not true**. While new provisions in the law allow additional options, they do not invalidate current AMDs. It is also important that persons wanting to “upgrade” to the new AMD retain their current AMD until they have properly executed the new AMD form (which is much longer and needs greater explanation than the current form).

More information will follow on this important topic. Thank you.



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen M. Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** June 16, 2009

**SUBJECT:** 2009 Group Respite Grant Initiative

A Request for Proposal (RFP) to develop a new social model, dementia-specific group respite or Early Memory Loss programs (EML) for Alzheimer's families is due on Wednesday, July 1, 2009. Non-profit organizations and public agencies are eligible to apply. Grantees are funded for up to two years (\$7,500 in the first year, renewable at \$3,000 in the second.) The group respite model is based on the publication, *How to Start and Manage a Group Activities and Respite Program for People with Alzheimer's Disease and Their Families*. The EML program model is outlined in the book, *How to Plan and Implement an Early Memory Loss Program*.

A grant application, RFP guidelines and Book Order Forms may be downloaded at [www.brookdalefoundation.org](http://www.brookdalefoundation.org).



09-141

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Solomon Girmay, External Financial Auditor

**DATE:** 06/16/2009

**SUBJECT:** Monitoring Report

In order to make the Program and Financial Compliance report easier to read and more comprehensible, VDA has modified the pervious format by dividing the report into two sections. Section A - for financial monitoring report and section B - for program monitoring report.

The financial monitoring report section will include the component areas that are tested for the period of the review and any observations/ findings and recommendation (if any).

The program monitoring report will also include observations, findings & recommendations (if any).

The monitoring report format change will be in-effect beginning with monitoring reports received on or after January 1, 2009.