

# **BERNADETTE SWEENEY**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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ADMITTED IN MARYLAND  
& DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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## **EXPERIENCE**

### ***Bernadette Sweeney, Attorney at Law, March 2001 – Present***

Elder Law Attorney, Rockville, Maryland

Represent clients in private elder law practice concentrating in estate, disability and public benefits planning, surrogate decision making issues, guardianship litigation, and estate and trust administration. Counseled seniors planning for long term care, incapacity and other legal issues that arise during the aging process. Serve as court-appointed guardian for disabled persons. Provided training to other lawyers in the field of elder law and gave complimentary seminars to community and professional groups regarding legal issues related to long term care.

### ***Margaret D. Farthing and Associates, P.C., May 1998 – February 2001***

Elder Law Attorney, Rockville, Maryland

Represented clients in broad-based elder law practice, including estate planning and administration, guardianships, public benefits planning for the disabled, and estate litigation.

### ***Bernadette Sweeney, Attorney at Law, October 1997 - May 1998***

Contract Attorney, Rockville, Maryland

Conducted legal consulting and writing services to attorneys in trial and appellate matters.

### ***Law Offices of James C. Savage, P.A., December 1993 - October 1997***

Attorney, Rockville, Maryland

Represented clients in criminal defense practice, including appearances at arraignments, bond review proceedings, and motions and administrative hearings in state and federal courts. Authored pretrial and post-trial motions, federal *habeas corpus* and state post-conviction petitions, and appellate briefs, including two Petitions for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court.

## **EDUCATION**

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW, Baltimore, Maryland

Juris Doctor, *cum laude*

American Jurisprudence Award, Conflict of Laws

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College Park, Maryland

Bachelor of Arts, Criminal Justice, *magna cum laude*

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**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Guest Speaker, GROWS Senior Service Network Meeting  
*Top Ten Reasons Seniors Need Elder Law Attorneys*, January 2003

Continuing Legal Education Lecturer, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland  
*Elder Law – Mixing Up the Proper Brew*, May 2002

Guest Speaker, Merrill Lynch Private Client Group, Rockville, Maryland  
*Ten Most Common Estate Planning Mistakes*, April 2001

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Member, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

Maryland State Bar Association  
Member, Elder Law Section

Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland  
Member, Elder Law Section

District of Columbia Bar  
Member, Estates, Trusts and Probate Section

**CIVIC ACTIVITIES**

The Senior Connection, Silver Spring, Maryland  
▪ Board Member, 2013

Grass Roots Organization for the Well-Being of Seniors, Potomac, Maryland  
▪ Board Member, 2003-2005  
▪ Member, Public Concerns Committee, 2002 – 2005  
▪ Chairperson, Public Concerns Committee, 2003 – 2005  
▪ Member, Program Committee, 2002 - 2004

Cedar Lane Cooperative Nursery School, Bethesda, Maryland  
▪ Board Member, 2007-2009  
▪ Board President, 2009-2011

Woodlin Elementary Parent Teacher Association, Inc.  
▪ Lead Volunteer, various positions, 2009-2012  
▪ Board Member 2012-2013

Girl Scout Troop Leader  
▪ Troop 1274, Silver Spring, Maryland, 2009 – present  
▪ Troop 1515, Silver Spring, Maryland, 2012 - present