



A. Frank Johns was the first North Carolina attorney to earn an LLM, master's in law in Elder Law, from Stetson University College of Law (2008), and serves on its faculty as an adjunct professor of law. Johns is a past president (1999-2000) of and fellow in the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Charter Chair of its Carolinas Chapter (1993) North Carolina Chapter (2011), and past chair of NAELA's Council of Advanced Practitioners; a fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC); Board Certified in Elder Law by the National Elder Law Foundation, and a certified specialist in elder law by the North Carolina State Bar, and a certified mediator by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission. He was the organizer of the North Carolina Elder Law Committee (1993), and charter chair of the North Carolina EL & SN Section (1996 and 1997). He was an organizer and charter Board member of the National Guardianship Association (1988) and founder of the North Carolina non-profit Corporation of Guardianship (1979) serving vulnerable Older Americans and people with disabilities.

Johns is the principal of Booth Harrington & Johns of NC PLLC, in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he has practiced law since 1977. The firm's holistic and collaborative approach focuses on elder law, asset preservation, and special needs, which includes all aspects of supported decision-making, person-centered planning, and guardianship, all of which are integrated with comprehensive transactional estate and trust planning delivered to clients throughout North Carolina. He also litigates issues in elder and special needs law focused on fiduciary wrong-doing, abuse, and injury.

Johns was a charter advisory board member of Elder Counsel and the Academy of Special Needs Planners and is a member of the Special Needs Alliance. Johns currently serves as president of Senior Resources of Guilford County, providing Meals on Wheels and Senior Centers across the county. He serves on and was chair of the US National Guardianship Network, served on the planning committee for the 4th National Guardianship Summit that was held virtually in the spring of 2021 at the Syracuse University Law School, for which he was commissioned to write an article published in 2022, and currently serves on North Carolina's Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS) for Rethinking Guardianship and alternatives – a collaborative impact, and he participated on the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act (UGCOPAA) drafting committee of the Uniform Laws Commission and served on its Enactment Committee.

Johns served on the board of the Greensboro Chapter of the Society of Financial Services Professionals and was its president, and he has been a long-time member of the Greensboro Estate Planning Council.

In addition to the specialties above, Johns continues to be active on a national basis in the US National Guardianship Network, and on an international basis in the International Guardianship Network, lecturing at the World Congress on Guardianship, in 2012, Melbourne, Australia, in 2014, Washington, DC (as its co-chair), in 2016, in Berlin, Germany, and in the upcoming 2024 World Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina.