# SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS OVERVIEW

University of Texas School of Law 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Changes and Trends Affecting Special Needs Trusts February 18-19, 2021

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### **Scope of Presentation**

- Overview: Planning with Trusts
- Public Benefits for People with Disabilities
- How Trusts Affect Medicaid Eligibility
- Drafting SNTs
  - First-Party SNTs
  - Third-Party SNTs
- Administering SNTs

# Part 1

# Planning with Trusts

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## **Planning with Trusts**

- Testamentary / Inter vivos Minor's Trusts
- Testamentary / Inter vivos Support Trusts
- Multi-generational Creditor Protection Trusts
- Irrevocable Life Insurance Trusts
- The type of trust is determined by the specific goals that we are trying to achieve for our client.

### Planning with Trusts: Protection

- From minor or spendthrift beneficiary
- From being counted as an estate asset
- From future creditors

### <u>Special Needs Trusts</u>

• Protection from being considered as a "countable resource" that is "available" to the trust beneficiary by a public benefits agency

# Planning with Trusts: SNTs Identify the specific public benefit program Understand the characteristics of that program Determine if a trust is necessary If yes, what type of trust is required to meet the goals with regard to that specific program What *are* the programs?

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### Title search: Special Needs Trusts Overview

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