



VINCENT J. RUSSO, Managing Shareholder of Vincent J. Russo & Associates, P.C., Long Island's Signature Elder Law, Special Needs and Estate Planning Law Firm with offices in Westbury, Islandia, Woodbury and Lido Beach, New York has championed the rights of seniors and people with special needs since 1985.

Vincent is a Co-Founder of the Academy of Special Needs Planners and Past Board Member and Current President of the Guardianship Corporation of United Cerebral Palsy of Nassau County and a Co-Founder and Officer of The Theresa Alessandra Russo Foundation for children with special needs.

Vincent is a Founding Member, Fellow and Fifth President of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) and is a Founding Member and First President of the New York Chapter of NAELA (National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys). He is the only NAELA member to receive the prestigious President's Award twice. He is also a member of the invitation only, NAELA Council of Advanced Practitioners (CAP). Vincent is a Founding Member and Past Chair of the Elder Law Section and Co-Chair of the Special Needs Section of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA).

Vincent is a Founding Member of ElderCounsel, an elder law and special needs attorney membership organization. He is also the Founding Chair and current member of the Legal Advisory Committee of the Alzheimer's Association Long Island Chapter and a Board Member of the Arthritis Foundation Long Island Chapter.

His professional achievements include an invitation to join the **WHITE HOUSE 2005 Conference on Aging** as an at-large delegate. This invitation followed two other major events in Washington, D.C. as a representative of NAELA: (1) Testimony before the **UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGING** on the proposed, detrimental changes in the Medicaid Program and (2) Featured Speaker at the Policy Forum of the **CATO INSTITUTE** on the subject of "Medicaid and the Long Term Care Crisis."

Joining a special group of New York attorneys, Mr. Russo is Co-Chair of the **New York State COMPACT Working Group**, introducing new and innovative long term care program which is being considered by the New York State Legislative.

As a national advocate for people with disabilities, seniors and their families, Mr. Russo has appeared on the **NBC's TODAY SHOW, WNBC NEWS, CBS SUNDAY MORNING, CNN, NEW YORK TIME FORUM, CNBC, the FOX NEWS NETWORK, CSPAN II, WCBSRADIO, TELECARE, NEWS 12 LONG ISLAND**, as well as numerous, other local radio and television programs.

His press interviews include **The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, the New York Daily News, the Washington Post, and Newsday**. His articles have been published in the **New York State Bar Journal, The Elder Law Report, Nassau Lawyer, National Underwriter** and the **NAELA Quarterly**. His 1993 cover story in **Financial Planning - The Official Magazine of the International Association of Financial Planning** - was well received by a whole new audience of professionals serving seniors. Since that lead article, Mr. Russo has written for a host of other professional organizations and has co-authored, **New York Elder Law Practice** and two consumer books on Estate Planning and Elder Law.

Mr. Russo is a nationally recognized speaker and noted authority on Elder Law, Special Needs and Estate Planning. His distinction in Elder Law, Special Needs and Estate Planning has made him one of the most prominent attorneys in his field.

Mr. Russo earned his law degree from Fordham University and his LLM in Taxation from Boston University. He is admitted to the New York, Massachusetts and Florida State Bars, and is a Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation.