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## TRUST TROUBLES LITIGATION, TAX AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Conflicts of Interest: B'nai Brith Trusts and Estates Seminar



**CHARLES WAGNER** Wagner Sidlofsky LLP B'nai Brith Canada Chair, Trusts & Estates

As professionals we often face moral quandaries. Clients' demands and/or employer's commands sometimes test our integrity. Teaching the profession how to deal with those issues is

a big part of what continuing legal education ("CLE") is about. The LSO has accredited a number of CLE programs including the B'nai Brith Estate & Trust Group's June 4th program. In part, our fictional factual scenario incorporates such an ethical dilemma. 18 year old Brad Phillips, the star of the TV Ontario show Dear Aunt Agnes, is taken by his parents to a lawyer and accountant to put his television earnings in a trust. It's Brad's money, but who controls the trust? The father. Who benefits from the trust? Brad and his sister with their father getting fees for his work as trustee. The ethical issue facing both the lawyer and accountant is whether they can properly represent Brad's parents, implement

their plan and fairly advise Brad about the financial and tax risks associated with the plan. It may be what his parents want, but is it possible for the professionals to fulfill that mandate and properly protect Brad at the same time? The panel addressing these issues will be chaired by Archie Rabinowitz who is a partner and senior litigation lawyer at Gowling WLG.

Archie's panelists include: Elena Hoffstein of Faskens and Michael Cadesky, the managing partner of Cadesky Tax. These two senior practitioners use our fictional scenario as a platform to address the legal and accounting professions' respective legal and ethical obligations concerning conflicts. This panel will also address how religious Jewish law ("Halacha") would deal with the conflict of interest question.

That Halachic perspective will be dealt with by the noted

ethicist and Halachic authority Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner, who is the Rosh Beit Midrash of Yeshiva University Torah MiTzion Beit Midrash Zichron Dov. Rabbi Torczyner will not only address how Jewish law views conflicts arising from representing two clients with possible disparate interests, he will also address the question how Halacha views a son suing his father for economic losses incurred.

B'nai Brith Canada expresses its gratitude to its sponsors and especially The Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company and Canada Israel Bonds (Platinum Sponsors), and the Royal Bank of Canada (Gold Sponsor). The event will take place on June 4, 2019 at Sha'arei Shomayim Synagogue at 470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5N 1V8 and is open to lawyers, accountants and paralegals. To reserve your place please call Keren at 416-633-6224 x 109.

Tuesday June 4th, 2019

Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue

470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto

Registration & Breakfast: 7:30 AM

Program: 8:00 AM - 12:35 PM

Cost: \$136 plus HST

This program is eligible for CPD hours required of Lawyers

and Accountants



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