



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

## Co-Sponsors Addabbo, Brady & Marshak Hold Successful Senior Sunset Supper / Elder Law Seminar: “Health Care Proxy for All”

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR August 2, 2011

| ISSUE: **FAMILIES, HEALTH, HEALTH CARE, SENIORS**



**Queens, NY, August 1, 2011** – On Thursday, July 28, **NYS Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.**, co-sponsored a Senior Sunset Supper that included a Health Care Proxy seminar at Sugar Bun Bakery, 156-22 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach, with elder law attorneys and partners at Brady & Marshak, Linda Marshak and Nancy Brady, R.N. The event kicked off the law firm’s “Health Care Proxy for All” campaign. Seating was limited to those who RSVP’d to the law firm for the evening event.

According to Brady & Marshak, it is important for every adult, regardless of health status, to have a representative appointed by them who can make health care decisions if they are temporarily or permanently unable to make decisions. The best way to ensure that your wishes regarding health care are carried out is to choose a health care representative, or “proxy” and make your wishes known to that

person regarding your medical treatment. Once that person has agreed to carry out your wishes, complete the legal form naming them as your agent. Your health care agent will be your voice, and their instructions regarding your care must be followed (only when you cannot speak for yourself). Without such a completed health care proxy form, your wishes may not be known, and you may or may not receive the care as you would have preferred. There are many people in New York who have not completed a health care proxy document.

Senator Addabbo, the first speaker to address the 35 audience members, reacted to the positive feedback he heard from attendees: “First, I would like to thank Sugar Bun Bakery for opening its doors to the community after business hours. I want to also thank Nancy Brady and Linda Marshak of the Howard Beach law firm of Brady & Marshak for giving their time to inform my constituents of the importance of a health care proxy at the seminar (held July 28).”

“During this past legislative session, the State Senate passed eight pieces of legislation dealing with the issue of a Health Care Proxy and the important health implications the proxy carries. I intend to continue my efforts to promote the awareness and understanding of the general need to have a Health Care Proxy. In fact, the State Senate considers this issue to be so important that it passed a recent bill for the DMV to begin, no later than 2013, to send health care proxy forms with driver’s license and registration renewals. This will take a period of years to reach seniors, who may or may not complete the forms, or may complete theirs incorrectly,” he noted.

Linda Marshak added, “The Who’s Your Health Care Proxy? kick-off event at Sugar Bun was a great success thanks to Senator Addabbo, Andrea from Sugar Bun, and all the wonderful seniors who joined us and completed the wallet-sized Health Care Proxy forms. We will be scheduling our next Who’s Your Health Care Proxy? event in the near future...stay posted. Our next topic covering Who’s Your Power of Attorney (POA)? is set for August 24 at 6 PM also at the Sugar Bun Bakery. Seniors who attend will learn about the recent legislative changes to the Power of Attorney in New York, and why it is important to have a Power of Attorney. We welcome the opportunity to continue to educate our community’s seniors.”

Her law partner, Nancy Brady, was also enthusiastic about the local response: “As an attorney working with the elderly, as well as a Registered Nurse, I know first hand how important the Health Care Proxy is for people to have in place, especially seniors. At last week’s event, 35 proxy forms were completed; we look forward to having more events for this community.”

Senator Addabbo’s Director of Special Events, Peter DeLucia, notes that he is planning another in Brady & Marshak’s series of elder law and nutrition lecture at the Howard Beach Senior Center, 156-46 84<sup>th</sup> Street on August 9.

### **About Brady & Marshak**

Brady & Marshak, LLP, Attorneys at Law, was established by Nancy J. Brady and Linda Faith Marshak, attorneys with experience primarily in the areas of Estate Planning and Elder Law. The firm has offices in Nassau and at 156-36 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach. However, Ms. Brady and Ms. Marshak serve clients in all five boroughs as well as Nassau and Suffolk. Client legal needs are typically established through an initial interview and consultation with either one or both of the attorneys. These consultations may take place in the attorneys' offices, the client's home, or if necessary at client's hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility. During the initial meeting the attorneys routinely review with the client any legal documents previously executed, as well as financial and health concerns. After establishing the client's

wishes, the attorneys work closely with the client to develop a plan to effectuate the client's wishes and ensure that all necessary documents are in place to carry out the client's ultimate goals. The attorneys present educational seminars on a regular basis, and maintain relationships with financial, accounting and other legal professionals to ensure virtually all of the clients' needs are met. For more information about elder law, contact Brady & Marshak at 156-36 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach, [718-738-8500](tel:718-738-8500), with any questions you may have.

# # #