

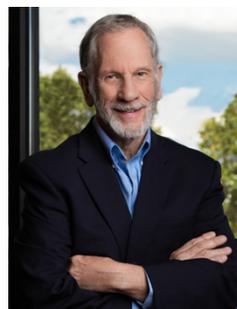
Meet the NINE Certified Elder Law Attorneys at Julian Gray Associates

We are very pleased to announce that attorneys **Matthew Kikta, Robert Schweitzer, Cindy Alvear and Colin Morgan** have all recently completed the requirements and examination to become certified as an Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation (NELF). These four attorneys join our five already certified attorneys: **Frank Petrich, Julian Gray, Caitlin Harper, Karen Timko, and Jennifer Rose** which makes our law firm the only Elder Law Firm in the Nation with NINE Certified Elder Law Attorneys.

Firm Founder and Owner, Julian Gray, has this to say about the CELA Team: “I am proud of our Certified Elder Law Attorneys’ commitment to excellence in helping clients and their families with disabilities to lead more enhanced lives. The combined experience and compassion of our team is unparalleled, and I congratulate their efforts.”



Julian Gray, CELA



Frank Petrich, CFP, CELA



Caitlin Harper, CELA



Karen Timko, CELA



Jennifer Rose, CELA



Matthew Kikta, CELA



Robert Schweitzer, CELA



Cindy Alvear, CELA



Colin Morgan, CELA

What is a Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) and Why Should I Ask for One?

CELA is an acronym or abbreviation which stands for **Certified Elder Law Attorney**, a designation conferred by the National Elder Law Foundation.

The National Elder Law Foundation (“NELF”) is the only national organization certifying practitioners of elder and special needs law approved and certified by the American Bar Association. The purpose of the certification program is to identify those lawyers who have the enhanced knowledge, skills, experience, and proficiency to be properly identified to the public as Certified Elder Law Attorneys.

The Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) certification has frequently been referred to as “the gold standard” for elder law and special needs practitioners. This reflects the hard work and proof required before an attorney can proudly proclaim that he or she holds the valued designation.

When you look for an attorney to help you with a special needs or elder law issue, you should look first at Certified Elder Law Attorneys (CELA®) near you. Why? Because they have demonstrated that they understand your legal problems specifically related to age and/or disability, and they can help you. They have a broader knowledge of the issues that affect seniors and those with disabilities and often provide a wide network of support.

To become a CELA, an attorney must:

- Have practiced law for at least 5 years and must be in good standing
- Have substantial involvement in the practice of Elder Law
- Take 15 hours of continuing legal education in Elder Law each year
- Submit to peer review
- Successfully pass a comprehensive all day written examination

#CELATEAM9
#PITTSBURGHCELAS

The CELA exam is rigorous with a recent national pass rate below 50%. An attorney must apply for recertification every five years. The recertification process includes peer review, proof of continuing legal education, and demonstration of ongoing involvement in the practice of elder law.

Julian Gray Associates is proud to have more CELA’s than any other law firm in the United States with NINE Certified Elder Law attorneys on its staff.

- **Frank Petrich** was the first attorney to be certified as a CELA in Western Pennsylvania in 1999.
- **Julian Gray** soon thereafter, became certified in 2003.
- **Caitlin Harper** became certified in 2010.
- **Jennifer Rose** and **Karen Timko** became certified in 2011.
- **Matthew Kikta**, **Robert Schweitzer**, **Cindy Alvear** and **Colin Morgan** all became certified in 2019.

If you wish to discuss your elder law issues with an experienced and certified attorney from our firm, we can get you started with a no-obligation appointment. Your lawyer should be a CELA — it is your surest method of independently confirming that she (or he) is more than just qualified.



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