



**CASEY STETTLER**

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**Each quarter we will shine a spotlight on one of our favorite team members at Utah Senior Planning to have some fun and help you get to know us better. This quarter we have chosen to get up-close and personal with VA accredited attorney and founding law partner at Sandberg, Stettler, & Bloxham, Casey Stettler.**

How long have you worked at Sandberg, Stettler, & Bloxham?

For almost 8 years.

What does elder law entail?

Elder law focuses on a certain type of client rather than specific areas of the law. I often tell clients elder law attorneys try to provide general assistance for seniors. Some of the most common areas that arise are preparing for long-term care, discussing finances and insurance, estate planning (i.e. trusts, wills, power of attorney, and medical directives), retirement planning, and navigating public benefit programs (Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, and Veteran Benefits).

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## USP FALL UPDATE

Hello and welcome to the quarterly Utah Senior Planning newsletter, where each quarter we plan to provide you with up-to-date information about long term care, financial planning, investments, tax planning and estate planning. In addition to keeping you informed, we also hope to get you more acquainted with our team of long term care planning experts and the many services we provide.

This quarter, in honor of Veterans Day on November 11th, we are focusing on the VA Aid and Attendance benefit, which helps veterans and their spouses who are in need of assistance with activities of daily living.

## FEATURED REVIEW



**Natalie Peacock**

Local Guide • 40 reviews

★★★★★ a week ago **NEW**

Utah Senior Planning is amazing! Every time I have a question about anything for my parents and grandparents, they seem to have the answer. My parents did some estate planning (trust, will, power of attorney, etc.) with Casey and it was such a smooth process. They now feel a lot of peace that their affairs are in order if anything were to happen. I would recommend Utah Senior Planning to anyone for any senior needs!

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# VETERANS BENEFITS

The VA provides an Aid and Attendance benefit that provides monthly payments, in addition to the amount received from a monthly VA pension, for veterans and their spouses who are in need of assistance with activities of daily living. We have provided the eligibility requirements for this program below to help you determine whether you or a loved one may qualify for this benefit:

## **VA Aid and Attendance Eligibility Requirements**

- Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with at least one day being during a wartime period. Service does not need to be foreign or combat related in order to qualify.
- Veteran must have received a military discharge other than dishonorable.
- Veteran or claimant must be in need of the daily aid and attendance of another person in order to avoid the everyday hazards of his or her environment.



Utah Senior Planning works with VA accredited attorneys that can help you find out whether you qualify for Veterans Benefits and help you through the application process. To schedule a free consultation regarding VA Benefits, you can call us at 801-546-9556, text 801-326-4862, or email [info@utahseniorplanning.com](mailto:info@utahseniorplanning.com).

# MEDICARE ENROLLMENT

**The Open Enrollment Period for 2022 is October 15th - December 7th**

Utah Senior Planning offers customized Medicaid planning that can help preserve assets and ensure that you or your loved one qualifies as quickly as possible. Our Medicaid professionals will guide you through the process, answering your questions along the way and ensuring you get all of the help that you deserve.

In addition to Medicaid planning, Utah Senior Planning also offers resources for placement in both Assisted Living and Nursing Home settings. We will schedule tours, go with you, answer questions, and provide a personalized experience to meet your needs.

To schedule a free consultation regarding Medicaid planning and eligibility or facility placement, you can call us at 801-546-9556, text 801-326-4862, or email [info@utahseniorplanning.com](mailto:info@utahseniorplanning.com).

## What do you like most about the work you do?

Initially, I was drawn into the area by my grandmother. She was dealing with dementia symptoms after suffering a stroke. She went from being independent to needing caregivers instantly. Navigating the situation was very difficult for our family. Luckily, I was working near Landon Sandberg and Utah Senior Planning where I was able to learn from experts. Once I was exposed, I realized the huge need for elder law attorneys. It was an awesome switch for me because there is a lot of job satisfaction in working with this demographic.

## What do you like most about the work you do?

I like being creative to find solutions for families. This is not a one-size-fits-all area of law and requires thoughtfulness, patience, and accuracy. My favorite part about what I do is when I see the relief on someone's face when they realize their situation is not hopeless and it is going to be okay.

## What have you gained from working in Elder Law?

I have gained an appreciation for enjoying life and the little moments. Life changes so fast and I have recognized how important it is to stop and really take a moment to enjoy the journey. I have learned it is important to plan ahead and be the captain of my ship. I have learned so much from the families I have worked with. I appreciate the experiences they share with me.

## What do you like to do when you aren't working?

I like to learn. I enjoy getting to know about as many subjects as I can. I enjoy spending time with my family. My two daughters keep me on my toes. I enjoy watching and playing sports, cinematic adventures, camping and fishing, and cooking.

## What are three words that describe you?

Even-keeled, curious, kind, resourceful.

## What is the one thing that you can't live without?

Ice cream.

## What is something on your bucket list?

Traveling the world.

## What is one thing you would tell your 13 year old self?

Appreciate the journey as much as the destination and don't be afraid to make mistakes.

# INDUSTRY NEWS

- Utah Senior Planning celebrated our 14th anniversary on September 26th.
- The average private-pay rate for nursing homes in Utah (used to determine penalty periods) was updated from \$6,908.00 to \$6,938.00 in July.
- The minimum spousal needs standard was increased from \$2,178.00 to \$2,289.00 in July.
- The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) is still in effect. During this time, states must keep Medicaid recipients enrolled in coverage. [Click here](#) to view the COVID 19 Questions & Answers in Medicaid Policy.



## 6 FUN FACTS ABOUT HALLOWEEN

1. **Halloween is the second largest commercial holiday in the U.S.** Second only to Christmas, consumers spent \$10.14 billion in 2021, a record high.
2. **Halloween has been celebrated for over 2,000 years.** It began as a Celtic festival called "Samhain," meaning "end of summer."
3. **The jack-o'-lantern originated in Ireland.** Based on the Irish myth, "Stingy Jack," they were originally carved out of turnips, potatoes, and beets.
4. **M&M's were the most popular Halloween candy in the U.S. in 2021.** Reese's Peanut Butter Cups were second place.
5. **Candy Corn was originally called "chicken feed."** Approximately 35 million pounds of candy corn are sold each year.
6. **IT (2017) is the highest grossing horror movie of all time.** The film grossed \$700,381,759.00 worldwide.