



# TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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## Meeting Report July 27, 2006

TACC met in Sacramento with 19 PSA's represented: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 31, and 33.

A panel discussion on preparations for the implementation of SB1018 was held. This law provides that selected bank employees are mandated reporters of suspected elder financial abuse. Four panel members represented banks as well consumers and the agencies that assist them. A significant activity is a public-awareness campaign by the Attorney General to raise public awareness regarding the many forms of financial abuse of older people.

Peter Bauer of Region 9 of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services presented some of the newer details of Medicare Part D. He has concerns that seniors are not taking full advantage of some of the services offered by Medicare, such as the "Welcome to Medicare" physical exam and cardiovascular screening. He spoke of a demonstration project to provide cancer screening for minorities.

David Mandel of Senior Legal Hotline discussed the issue of Reverse Mortgages after noting that funding for his agency which provides legal advice over the telephone has been severely cut back. Mr. Mandel said that there are some cases where reverse mortgages are beneficial, but they are beset with high fees and misinformation. Annuities that are not useful are being sold with reverse mortgages.

Mr. Mandel also called attention to AB12 which requires the California Law Revision Commission to study the issue of so-called "revocable transfer upon death" deeds which make it possible for heirs to receive property upon the death of the owner without going through probate while still allowing the owner control over the property prior to that event. This had been discussed at TACC's March, 2006 meeting. The Commission must report by January 1, 2007, and may suggest a bill to implement the concept; it is finding that there are many issues to be considered.

TACC Bylaws were amended to provide that the Nominating Committee is selected in January rather than July because there is generally no need for their services until April or May.

Officers for 2006-2007 were elected – David Wilder (PSA 20), President; Don Hunt (18), Vice President; Bill Hollabaugh (6), Recording Secretary; Martin Tucker (17), Treasurer; and Jacque Brown (4), Member at Large.

Every PSA represented at the meeting reported. It was particularly interesting to note the variety of advisory councils across the state and the varying amount of decision-making power held by those councils, some of which are commissions. Of interest is that Alpine County is withdrawing from the Area Agency on Aging for PSA 12 – with a population of less than 1300 (over 739 square miles) and only about 60 seniors the cost of maintaining access to federal and state funding programs is very high relative to the funding received.

The participation of TACC in the Allied Conference of the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging was discussed. The concern is that TACC gives up meeting time, but the workshops are generally directed to agency staff development rather than topics of more general interest as happens at the Coordinated Leadership Conference.