

## CLBB Highlights

### [Protecting Older Adults From Financial Scams Amidst COVID-19](#)

April 13, 2020  
Dr. Bruce Price, MD

In addition to being especially vulnerable to severe complications from the novel coronavirus, older adults are being targeted by financial scam artists. How are older adults being targeted and what can we do to protect them? In a [new post on the CLBB website](#), CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director Dr. Bruce Price offers expert advice on ensuring elder justice during this pandemic. Dr. Price is a neurologist, serving as Chief of the Department of Neurology at McLean Hospital. He is also an Associate Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School. He has engaged both the medical and legal communities around issues of elder financial fraud.

## Leadership on Aging Brains and Elder Justice

### [Dr. Bruce H. Price, MD](#)

Dr. Bruce Price, MD is Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Law, Brain and Behavior. Dr. Price graduated from Harvard University cum laude, and attended the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. In 1994, he was appointed Chief of the Department of Neurology at McLean Hospital. He is an Associate in Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital and Associate Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School. An internationally recognized leader in the integration of neurology, psychiatry, neurosurgery, and neuropsychology, his research interests include the cognitive and behavioral consequences of neurologic and psychiatric diseases, brain dysfunction in violent and criminal behavior, frontal lobe functions including insight, judgment, empathy, self-awareness, social adaptation, and decision-making, memory disorders, and dementias, complex decision-making, fraud, and undue influence. His fascination with the intersections between medicine, law, and ethics is longstanding.

### [Dr. Judith G. Edersheim, MD, JD](#)

Dr. Judith Edersheim is Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior, an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and an attending Psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her research interest is in the translation of psychiatric and neurologic behavior into legal settings. She has published articles regarding the intersection of legal and medical concepts in peer reviewed medical journals such as the Journal of the American Academy of Law and Psychiatry and The Clinical Companion to the Journal of Primary Care and in legal journals such as the Massachusetts Family Law Journal. She has been a featured speaker locally, regionally and nationally regarding issues pertaining to neuroscience, psychiatry and the law.

### [Dr. Francis X. Shen, PhD, JD](#)

Dr. Francis Shen is the Executive Director of the MGH Center for Law, Brain, and Behavior; an Instructor in Psychology at Harvard Medical School; Senior Fellow in the Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience at the Harvard Law School Petrie-Flom Center, and an Associate Professor of Law and a McKnight Land-Grant Professor at the University of Minnesota, where he directs the Shen Neurolaw Lab. His Lab [has explored](#) the ethical and legal implications of pre-symptomatic diagnosis of dementia, and his recent law

review article [Aging Judges](#) explores the challenge of cognitive decline on the bench. He also led CLBB's 2018 program, [Our Aging Brains: Decision-making, Fraud, and Undue Influence](#).

## CLBB Work on Aging Brains

### **Aging and Cognitive Function: Risks and Rewards - Postponed**

May 21-22, 2020

CLBB's Co-Founder and Co-Director, Dr. Judith Edersheim, MD, JD and CLBB Executive Director, Dr. Francis Shen, JD, PhD were to present at the Federal Judicial Center's Conference for Chief Judges of United States Bankruptcy Courts. The presentation was to cover issues related to aging brains on the bench.

### **Cognitive Decline: Practical Benchmarks for Financial Professionals - Postponed**

April 8, 2020

This luncheon event, featuring CLBB's Co-Founders and Co-Directors, Drs. Judith Edersheim, MD, JD and Bruce Price, MD, was to be held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston by [The Boston Economic Club](#).

### **Detecting Dementia: Technology, Aging Brains, and the Law - Postponed**

April 1, 2020 | 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Harvard Law School, Wasserstein Hall, Milstein East C

Advances in neuroimaging, genetics, and mobile health apps are creating unprecedented opportunities to detect subtle brain changes that may predict the onset of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia. But how much trust should we have in these new technologies, who will have access to them, and how should the law respond when litigants proffer novel evidence of their brain states? This panel was to explore technological innovations in dementia detection, and their ethical, social, and legal implications.

*This event was part of the [Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience](#), a collaboration between the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.*

### **Dementia and the Law: The Neurologist's Dilemmas**

November 18, 2019

CLBB's Co-Founder and Co-Director, Dr. Bruce Price, MD and CLBB Executive Director, Dr. Francis Shen, JD, PhD presented at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital Neurology Residency Pilot Neuroethics Seminars.

### **Elder Financial Fraud Roundtable**

October 3, 2019

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission | Washington, DC

CLBB's Executive Director Francis Shen, JD, PhD joined other experts in government, law, and finance to discuss contributing factors to elder exploitation, including cognitive decline, capacity issues, social isolation and institutional vulnerabilities that create entry points for fraudsters and other unscrupulous actors. The panelists also discussed strategies for proactively providing

investors with safeguards and educational tools from regulatory and industry standpoints.

### **[Our Aging Brains: Decision-Making, Fraud, and Undue Influence](#)**

April 27, 2018

With over 70 million Baby Boomers retiring, elder financial exploitation has been labeled the "Crime of the 21st Century." In this half-day event, we explored the neuroscience, psychology, and legal doctrine of financial decision-making in older adults. How does the aging brain make financial decisions, and when is it uniquely susceptible? How can courts best use science to improve their adjudication of disputes over "competency", "capacity", and "undue influence"? Is novel neuroimaging evidence of dementia ready for courtroom use? This conference brought together experts in medicine, science, and law to explore these important questions and chart a path forward for dementia and the law.

*This event was part of the [Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience](#), a collaboration between the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.*

### **[Dementia and Democracy: America's Aging Judges and Politicians](#)**

November 15, 2017

Our judiciary and our elected officials are getting old. Five of the nine Supreme Court Justices are 67 or older, with two over age 80. The President is 71, the Senate Majority Leader is 75, and the House Minority Leader is 77. Does the public have a right to know whether these officials have been screened for dementia? If the individuals don't self-report their dementia status, should experts continue to adhere to the "Goldwater Rule" and refrain from offering an armchair diagnosis? As the nation reflects on its midterm elections, and prepares for the 2020 election cycle, these questions are timely and challenging.

*This event was part of the [Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience](#), a collaboration between the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.*

### **[The Mayhem of a Misdiagnosis](#)**

January 19, 2017

In this event, Dr. Judith Edersheim, MD, JD and Dr. Bradford Dickerson, MD presented a case that concerns a tragic trajectory caused by undetected brain disease and the interpersonal and larger societal havoc that can be wreaked by a misdiagnosis. Weaving a narrative that highlights the subject's personal life and neurological decline, experts in psychiatry, law, and neurology will consider: what can be done to prevent the mayhem of a misdiagnosis?

*This event was co-sponsored by New America and the MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior.*

### **[The Vulnerable Brain: Capacity, Coercion, and the Elderly](#)**

December 15, 2016

As the American population ages, the medical and legal systems will have to balance concerns about protecting the elderly from fraud and victimization with fundamental autonomy rights. In this event, the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior will present a case that concerns a tragic trajectory caused by undetected brain disease and discuss both missed opportunities to intervene and the implications for legal and social policy. Weaving a narrative that highlights the subject's personal life and neurological decline, experts in psychiatry, law, and

neurology will consider: what can be done to protect the vulnerable, aging brain? Examining everything from forensic reports, to medical records, to a literal brain, CLBB Co-Director Dr. Judith Edersheim and CLBB Faculty Member Dr. Brad Dickerson (of Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School) will tell a story that exemplifies how vulnerable an ailing, elderly person can be. CLBB Co-Director Dr. Bruce Price will join as a discussant during the Q&A session with the audience.

*This event was co-sponsored by the Boston Society of Neurology and Psychiatry and the MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior.*

### **Capacity, Finances, and the Elderly: Brain Sciences Meets the Law**

December 12, 2013

On December 12th, 2013, at Brigham and Women's Hospital's Bornstein Amphitheater, CLBB joined forces with the Boston Society of Neurology and Psychiatry to host a conversation among experts in neurology, psychiatry, and the law about how the science of aging could impact how we protect older adults from victimization and undue influence. Where do we draw the line between protection and paternalism? What constitutes a bad financial decision? Who needs additional protections?

## Selected Publications, Presentations, and Media

### ***Publications***

Judith G. Edersheim, Evan D. Murray, Jaya Padmanabhan, and Bruce H. Price, "[Protecting the Health and Finances of the Elderly with Early Cognitive Impairment](#)," *The Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*, 45.1 (2017): 81-91.

R. Ryan Darby, Judith G. Edersheim, and Bruce H. Price, "[What Patients with Behavioral Variant Frontotemporal Dementia Can Teach Us About Moral Responsibility](#)," *AJOB Neuroscience*, 7.4 (2016): 193-201.

Francis X. Shen, "[Aging Judges](#)," *Ohio State Law Journal* (Forthcoming), 18 (2020).

Joshua Preston, Jaleh McTeigue, Caitlin Opperman, Jordan Dean Scott Kreig, Mikaela Brandt-Fontaine, Alina Yasis, and Francis X. Shen, "[The Legal Implications of Detecting Alzheimer's Disease Earlier](#)," *AMA Journal of Ethics*, 18.12 (2016): 1207-1217.

Zachary Sager, Casey Catlin, Heather Connors, Timothy Farrell, Pamela Teaster, and Jennifer Moye, "[Making End-of-Life Care Decisions for Older Adults Subject to Guardianship](#)," *Elder Law Journal*, 27.1 (2019): 1-34.

David Wolk, Stephen Salloway, Bradford C. Dickerson, "[Putting the New Alzheimer Disease Amyloid, Tau, Neurodegeneration \(AT\[N\]\) Diagnostic System to the Test](#)," *JAMA*, 321.23 (2019): 2289-2291.

Martha E. Shenton, Bruce H. Price, Laura Levin, and Judith G. Edersheim, "[Mild Traumatic Brain Injury: Is DTI Ready for the Courtroom?](#)", *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 61 (2018): 50-63.

Simon Ducharme, Bradford C. Dickerson, Mykol Larvie, Bruce H. Price, "[Differentiating Frontotemporal Dementia from Catatonia: A Complex Neuropsychiatric Challenge](#)," *The Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences*, 27.2 (2015): e174-176.

Simon Ducharme, Bruce H. Price, Mykol Larvie, Darin D. Dougherty, and Bradford C. Dickerson, "[Clinical Approach to the Differential Diagnosis Between Behavioral Variant Frontotemporal Dementia and Primary Psychiatric Disorders](#)," *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, 172.9 (2015): 827-837.

### ***Presentations***

Bruce H. Price and Judith G. Edersheim, "The Aging Brain and the Law: Case Studies in Frontotemporal Dementia," (Seminar on Law and Neuroscience, Speaker, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, 2019).

Bruce H. Price and Judith G. Edersheim, "Testamentary Capacity and Undue Influence: Clinical Pearls," (Lecturers, Dementia: A Comprehensive, Harvard Medical School, Continuing Medical Education, Boston, Massachusetts, 2019).

Bruce H. Price and Judith G. Edersheim, "Dementia and the Law," (Invited Speakers, Law and Applied Neuroscience, Harvard Law School Seminar, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, 2018).

Bruce H. Price and Judith G. Edersheim, "Your Brain on the Bench: Enhancing Judicial Performance through Physical and Psychological Wellness," (Keynote Speakers, Massachusetts Superior Court Judges Conference, Chatham, MA, 2018).

Judith G. Edersheim, "Elder Clients and Diminished Capacity," (Invited Speaker at The Boston Bar Association, Fiduciary Law Section, Boston, MA, 2018) .

Judith G. Edersheim, "Expert Witnesses in Fiduciary Litigation: When, What, Why, Who & How?" (Featured Keynote Speaker, Boston Bar Association Seminar Series, Boston, MA, 2017).

Judith G. Edersheim, "Elder Clients and Diminished Capacity," (Keynote Speaker, Greater Boston Fiduciary Law American Inn of Court, Boston, MA, 2017).

Judith G. Edersheim, "Medical Issues in Surrogate Decision Making" (Keynote Speaker, Massachusetts Probate Court, John Joseph Moakley Federal Courthouse, Boston, MA, 2013).

Judith G. Edersheim, "Undue Influence and Incompetence in the Probate Court" (Lecturer, Boston Bar Association Seminar Series, Boston MA, 2007).

#### **Media**

Bradford C. Dickerson, "[Alzheimer Disease Disease Risk Factors](#)," *HPC Live* (Interview), November 27, 2019.

Francis X. Shen, "[Approaching Aging Federal Judges in America: Interview with Francis X. Shen](#)," *Scholastica* (Interview), November 26, 2019.

Lisa Feldman Barrett, "[How to Become a Superager](#)," *The New York Times*, January 4, 2017.

Bruce H. Price, Ekaterina Pivovarova, and Judith G. Edersheim, "[Protecting Our Parents. Can Science Help?](#)", *Huff Post* (Blog), February 21, 2014.

Carey Goldberg, "[Harvard Forum: Should Older Politicians And Judges Be Tested For Mental Decline?](#)", *WBUR*, November 17, 2017.

## In the News: COVID-19 and Elder Justice

[Worst COVID-19 Scams Targeting Seniors](#) | Senior Living Communities

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Tips for Dementia Caregivers](#) | Alzheimer's Association

[COVID-19 Scams and the Elderly: Inspiring Savvy Seniors](#) | American Bankers Association | April 3, 2020

[Some Coronavirus Patients Show Signs of Brain Ailments](#) | The New York Times | April 1, 2020

[When Dementia Meets the Coronavirus Crisis](#) | The New York Times | March 26, 2020

[The Biggest Effect of Elder Fraud is Emotional: AICPA](#) | Think Advisor | March 12, 2020

[International Sweep Against Elder Fraud](#) | The National Law Review | March 10, 2020

CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior, Massachusetts General Hospital,  
Dept. of Psychiatry, Bulfinch 351, Boston, MA 02114

[SafeUnsubscribe™\\_{recipient's email}](#).

[mghclbb@gmail.com](mailto:mghclbb@gmail.com) | [Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [mghclbb@gmail.com](mailto:mghclbb@gmail.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!