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UP & COMING

SAMANTHA McCARTHY

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Samantha McCarthy's passion for estate planning and elder law began long before she became a lawyer. Growing up, she witnessed the challenges faced by her grandfather, who had multiple sclerosis, and was inspired to become involved with disability activism work during college, when she saw first-hand how proper planning could help families.

"I went to law school to learn about these practice areas in order to help people," McCarthy says.

While she initially began her practice in corporate law, she hung out her shingle in 2018, launching her own firm focused on estate planning, elder law and guardianship.

"I started out by myself and we've grown to a staff of eight people," she says. "I'd be lying if I said it was easy. It was scary but it was absolutely worth it. I work with an amazing group of people and with clients I love in a way that is really meaningful, so that at the end of the day I feel like I have made a difference."



McCarthy spends her days alternating between drafting documents and meeting with clients, ensuring that the firm is a friendly, kind place where everyone feels comfortable and cared for.

"Helping families navigate long-term health crises or manage when they have lost a

loved one is challenging and those are hard conversations to have," she says. "But client interaction is also the best of the job, getting to know people and in some circumstances, provide them with hope. I get to form connections with people that can last for years."

A member of the Rhode Island Bar Association (where she sits on the Probate and Trust Committee), the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and its Rhode Island chapter, McCarthy also sits on the board of directors for the Hope Alzheimer's Center and works with RIBA's Lawyer Referral Service and Elderly Pro Bono Program. *RILW*