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Lisa McCauley Parles, Esq., is a partner in the Springfield, New Jersey law firm Parles Rekem, LLP and the parent of a 30 year old with autism. Her practice focuses on representing individuals with disabilities and their families in the areas of early intervention, special education, transition and adult services, residential placements, reasonable accommodations, insurance coverage and guardianships.

In addition to representing individuals with disabilities and their families, she has also represented numerous not for profit organizations in the disabilities community. She serves on the Board of Trustees of Circle Haven, Inc., a non-profit organization that addresses the needs of adults with developmental disabilities and is currently in the process of developing a unique residential project in south Jersey. She is a frequent lecturer and has appeared in numerous television and radio broadcasts, including Nightline and ABC World News Tonight. She has participated as a panelist and moderator for numerous continuing legal education seminars and has published a number of articles in peer reviewed journals and bar association publications.

Lisa is a founding Board member of The National Council on Severe Autism, a non-profit organization that advocates for recognition, policies and solutions to address the needs of the growing population of individuals, families and caregivers affected by severe forms of autism and related disorders. She has played a central role in national advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C., particularly in the area of housing.

Lisa was a speaker at the United Nations for World Autism Awareness Day in 2017 and was an invited expert on the United States General Accountability Office's panel in Washington, D.C. entitled "Youth With Autism – Transitioning to Adulthood" in 2016. She has also been an invited speaker before the New Jersey State Senate Legislative Oversight Committee as well as the New Jersey State Assembly Human Services Committee. She has tirelessly advocated for changes to New Jersey's Statewide Transition Plan and federal regulations in order to ensure that a full array of services and choices are available to the developmentally disabled.

Lisa served as the Director of the Leadership Studies Program at Seton Hall University Stillman School of Business and an adjunct Professor in both the undergraduate and MBA programs where she has received the Adjunct Professor Excellence Award. She has also been the recipient of the New Jersey Community Health Law Project's "Ann Klein Advocate Award," the MarbleJam Kids "Community Impact Award," Alpine Learning Group's "Meeting the Challenge Award" and

RNN – Cablevision New Jersey’s “Everyday Hero Award.” She has also been recognized by *201 Magazine* as one of its “Parent and Professional Leaders in Autism.”

Ms. McCauley Parles earned her B.A. with honors from Hamilton College in 1984 and her J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law Newark in 1987. She was a General Editor of the Rutgers Law Review and the Notes and Comments Editor of the Women’s Rights Law Reporter. She began her career as an Assistant District Attorney in the Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau of the Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office and has been in private practice for over thirty years. She is admitted to the New Jersey and New York State Bars.