

# Oklahoma City Estate Planning Council, Inc.

Membership Comprised of:  
Attorneys, Certified Public Accountants,  
Chartered Life Underwriters, Chartered Financial Consultants,  
Certified Financial Planners and Trust Officers

2019-2020

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## MEETING NOTICE

The next Oklahoma City Estate Planning Council meeting will be on:

**Thursday, November 14, 2019, 7:30 – 8:45 a.m.**  
**Oklahoma City Community Foundation (“OCCF”), 1000 Broadway,**  
**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

We are pleased to present as our speaker, Cathy Costello. Ms. Costello will have a presentation on “Mental Health Considerations for Families and Estate Planning Professionals”.

**If you have any suggestions for future speakers and/or topics, please contact a board member.**

Please respond to Carol Thompson whether or not you will be attending the meeting. If you are bringing a guest, please provide the guest's name. **Guests are welcomed and encouraged.**

By email: [cthompson@hartzoglaw.com](mailto:cthompson@hartzoglaw.com)

By facsimile: 996-3403

**GUEST BREAKFAST FEE OF \$30 PER GUEST WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE MEETING.**

**Please respond no later than Monday, November 11, 2019.**

**Our objective is to promote friendship and cooperation among the members of the Council to the end that the public may be better served in the planning and administration of trusts and estates.**

# CATHY COSTELLO

CathyCostelloForHope@gmail.com | <https://www.CathyCostelloForHope.com>  
[www.facebook.com/CathyCostelloForHope](http://www.facebook.com/CathyCostelloForHope)

Cathy Costello earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Classical Music from the University of Kansas. She has taught in both Texas and Oklahoma. She was married for nearly 34 years to former Labor Commissioner Mark Costello and they raised their 5 children in Edmond, Oklahoma.

An entrepreneur in her own right, Cathy started her first business in high school to fund her college education, learning at an early age that work affords its own reward. Cathy invested her savings in a start-up company which she and Mark created with a card table and two folding chairs. Working hand in hand, Cathy and Mark developed and launched 8 businesses in 6 industries around the world.

Cathy has direct experience from marketing to advertising, to crafting policies, procedures and business plans. Years of entrepreneurial expertise has provided her with a broad understanding of policy needs to maximize opportunities for economic success for Oklahomans.

Cathy's late husband, Mark Costello met the challenge of a lifelong dream to serve in public office. He was elected as Oklahoma's State Labor Commissioner serving from 2011-2015. But the greatest challenge that faced the Costello's was the severe mental illness that plagued their oldest son who has suffered with schizophrenia for ten years. On August 23rd, 2015, after a quiet dinner at a local restaurant, their son inexplicably killed Mark during a paranoid, delusional psychotic break. Mark died in Cathy's arms.

Since Mark's death, Cathy continues with the family businesses and invests her time as a state and national speaker on mental health issues. Cathy has been instrumental in passing landmark state and federal legislation to improve how we address mental health needs in our communities, health care approaches and the workplace and frequently appears on local and national radio and television including NPR and Sirius XM. By invitation, Cathy addressed the New Jersey legislature in October 2017 to present her legislative reforms and the impact of mental health on the work force and was a presenter at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Leadership Oklahoma 2018 sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation.



*Cathy is an advisory board member for the Mental Health Association of Oklahoma; a member of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness); a State Planning and Advisory Council Member to the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse; National Council for Behavioral Health and Oklahoma Behavioral Health Association board member and a committee member for National Catholic Charities Partnership on Disabilities. Cathy has received the Dr. Krishna "Lifting the Stigma" award as well as the "A.C.C.E.S.S. Award" presented by the Oklahoma Council for Exceptional Children and OK-AHEAD.*

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