

## Florida Estate Planning & Elder Law E-Newsletter February 2020

February is the birth month of Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, honored on Presidents Day, February 17. This month also marks another birthday, one you may feel less inclined to commemorate: The U.S. income tax. Congress approved the Sixteenth Amendment on February 3, 1913, giving itself the authority to levy taxes on individual and corporate incomes.

This year, the tax filing deadline is April 15. The IRS began accepting and processing returns on January 27. If you need help with your 2019 return, consider retaining the Karp Law Firm's Certified Public Accountant, Rebecca Maglio. Many of our clients as well as non-clients use Ms. Maglio's services. Call (561) 472-6066 or email her at [rmaglio@karplaw.com](mailto:rmaglio@karplaw.com).

All the best,  
*The Attorneys & Staff of The Karp Law Firm*



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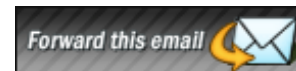
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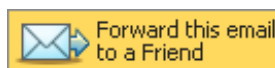
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## **Free Workshops**

Free February seminars! Come find out how to protect your family and your assets. Please share the schedule with your friends and neighbors, too. We offer attendees a free consultation if we think we'll be able to assist them. Check out the schedule [here](#).

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## **Even Top Legal Minds Make Estate Planning Mistakes**



A sound estate plan leaves nothing open to interpretation. Every potential scenario must be anticipated and accounted for. Former Attorney General Janet Reno's plan didn't quite measure up, creating delays and family conflict.

[Read more](#)

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## **Not Happy With Your Medicare Advantage Plan?**

You have until March 31 to replace your Medicare Advantage plan with another Advantage plan, or with Basic Medicare. Certain restrictions apply.

[Learn more](#)

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## **Listen To Elder Law Radio**

Listen to Attorney Joseph Karp on Anita Finley's STARS show, Saturday, February 8 at 8:30 a.m. To find out how to listen, and to hear selected archived shows, click [here](#).

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## **Seventy Years Of Wedded Bliss!**

Congratulations to longtime clients Leonard and Florence Cohen, a

very special couple who just marked their 70th wedding anniversary. Attorney Joseph Karp and wife were on hand for the celebration.

## [Photos](#)

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### **Electronic Wills Present Perils**



Effective January 1, Florida became the fourth state to make electronic wills legal. But consumers beware: the process has many potential problems that remain unaddressed.

[Read more](#)

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### **Homestead Exemption Filing Deadline Is March 1**

If your Florida property is your permanent residence, it may qualify for the state's homestead exemption, which can reduce its assessed value by up to \$50,000 and in some cases, even more. The filing deadline is March 1, 2020.

[More information](#)

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### **The Bond In The Book, And Other Tales of Hidden Assets**

Do you like to hide valuables in your home? Okay - but please, let someone you trust know where they are. Otherwise, your valuables could end up featured in a story like this.

[Read more](#)

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### **Social Security Field Offices Increase Hours**

Social Security field offices have resumed Wednesday afternoon hours, eliminated in 2012. This is one of several steps the agency says it is taking to better serve beneficiaries.

[Read more](#)

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### **Be Mine...and Be Careful, Too**

On Valentine's Day, hopeful suitors say *Be mine!* Let's add to that, *Be careful!* That's especially good advice if you're looking for companionship online, where fake profiles can be hard to detect.



[Read more](#)

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## Call Us... We Are Your Law Firm!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for your legal needs, no matter the issue. If your concern is one we do not handle in our practice, we will try to provide you with a name of a trusted professional who does. Reach us via email at [KLF@karplaw.com](mailto:KLF@karplaw.com) or call us at 561-625-1100.

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