

Florida Estate Planning & Elder Law E-Newsletter October 2020

Halloween is October 31. It cannot be any scarier than what all of us have been coping with these past few months!

Here's the latest on our office status: We continue monitoring advice from reputable medical experts (while ignoring the political noise). As we prepare this newsletter, Florida's positivity rate has declined. However, on September 25, bars and restaurants were cleared to open at 100% capacity, and health experts are keeping their eye on the impact going forward. Many of our clients are in older age groups and more vulnerable to serious complications. Since we currently have in place an **excellent system for assisting clients**, we are going to err on the side of caution and wait a little while longer before we resume meeting face-to-face.

We are eager to return to normal, but these are extraordinary circumstances that require an extraordinary level of caution. Call us at (561) 625-1100 or **email us**. We are working full time, and we are here for you.



[Visit Our Website](#)



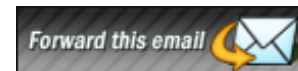
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Passing Personal Items to Beneficiaries Can Be Tricky



It's easy to divide your bank account equally among your kids. But what about your diamond ring? A prized baseball card? Florida has specific rules about passing on tangible personal items. Here's what you need to know.

[Read more](#)

A Coming Twindemic? Why Your Flu Shot Is Still Important

Medical experts are warning about a *twindemic*, the double threat of COVID and upcoming flu season. They recommend that most people get the annual flu vaccine. Local pharmacies have it available now, and Publix provides a \$10 gift card if you get your inoculation there.

[Read more](#)

[Nationwide vaccine locator](#)

Guardianship Nightmare Ends: A Lesson For All Of Us

If you fall into Florida's court-ordered guardianship system, a professional guardian may make all your decisions, and you will be charged for his/her services. An unpleasant situation to be sure - even more so with recent revelations about the system's serious flaws. Here's the story of one ward who fought back, and how to keep yourself out of the system if you become incapacitated.

[Read more](#)

Our Port St. Lucie Office Has Moved

A reminder that our Port St. Lucie office has relocated. The new address is 1860 SW Fountainview Blvd, Suite 100 (W Executive Suites). Phone numbers remain the same: (561) 625-1100 or (772) 343-8411. Our Palm Beach Gardens and Boynton Beach offices remain at the same locations.

[Map and directions to all offices](#)

Florida's New Rules for Nursing Home, ALF Visits



If you have a loved one in a nursing home or assisted living facility, you may be able to resume visiting them now. Governor DeSantis' executive order of September 1 provides guidelines for visitation.

[New visitation rules](#)

Amendment Would Transfer Disabled Veteran's Homestead Exemption To Surviving Spouse

There are six constitutional amendments on the Florida ballot this year. One of them would allow the homestead exemption of certain veterans to be used by the surviving spouse.

[Read more](#)

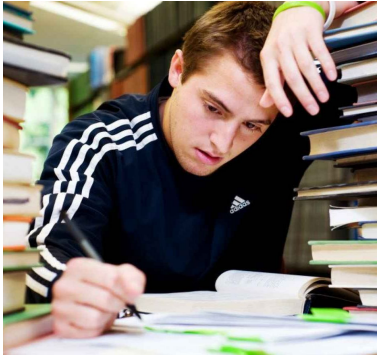
New Tools To Stop Robocalls

If you are barraged by robocalls and robotexts these days, you're not alone. Political calls are legal, and the Do Not Call Registry is only

partially effective. The good news is that there are several new phone apps and tools that can better block, or at least identify, unsolicited calls.

[Information from the FCC](#)

Don't Delay Submitting Your College Student's FAFSA



Will your child attend college in 2021-2022? You can submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) beginning October 1. There will likely be more competition than usual for funds this year because of economic fallout from the pandemic, and many schools make awards on a first-come, first-serve bases. Submitting the form early is wise.

[Learn more](#)

Now That's What We Call Lifelong Learning!

He wouldn't let anything stand in the way of getting his college degree: not COVID, not his age. Meet Guiseppe Paterno, Italy's oldest college graduate.

[Read more](#)

Sons Remember Fathers Taken By Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's is an equal-opportunity disease. It doesn't care if you're wealthy or poor. Bill Gates' dad just died from Alzheimer's, as did billionaire Ray Dolby. Each son is paying tribute to his father in his own way.

[Read more](#)

We Appreciate Your Referrals

As always, we appreciate your recommending our law firm to your friends, family and neighbors. Thank you for the compliment and for your confidence. Please encourage your referrals to mention your name. We want to know whom to thank!

Share this newsletter!



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