



## FLORIDA ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW



### March 2023



Daylight Savings Time returns Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 a.m. Remember to set your clocks *ahead* one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

Could this be the last year we adjust our clocks? Maybe. Florida passed a law in 2018 making Daylight Savings Time permanent. However, the law cannot go into effect until the federal government signs off, and the federal version of the law, the Sunshine Act, has yet to make it through Congress. Until that happens, it's business as usual: We will continue springing forward, and falling back.

All the best, and happy St. Patrick's Day!

*The Attorneys & Staff of The Karp Law Firm*

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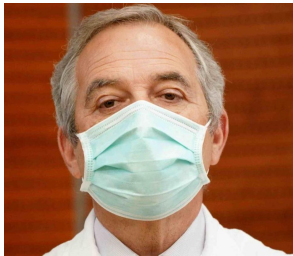


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## Greater Scrutiny of Medicaid Beneficiaries Coming



The Public Health Emergency (PHE) declared in 2020 is scheduled to end on May 11, 2023. Several rules that were temporarily suspended or loosened during the pandemic will resume. Expect renewed scrutiny if you are receiving Medicaid benefits. Also back on the table: stricter enforcement of Medicare's three-day hospital stay requirement for coverage of post-acute care.

[Read more](#)

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## Veterans Aid & Attendance Rates Increase

Many veterans mistakenly think they cannot qualify for Pension and Aid & Attendance benefits because their disability is not service-related. Others are not even aware that these benefits exist. In both cases, eligible veterans miss out on funds that could help ease the burden of paying for long-term care. Click below to read about Aid & Attendance and 2023 rate increases.

[Read more](#)

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## Confused About Spousal Social Security Benefits?

If you're uncertain about benefits you are entitled to based on your spouse's Social Security, you are not alone. Detailed rules exist that relate to whether you're divorced, for how long, when benefits are first claimed, and more. This *Forbes* article provides some clarity.

[Read more](#)

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## Leonard Cohen's Estate In Limbo

Prolific singer/songwriter Leonard Cohen died in 2016, leaving behind a remarkable musical legacy and \$48 million in assets. Cohen's estate is now a battleground, with the musician's two adult



children claiming that the trustee fraudulently took control of their father's estate.

[Read more](#)

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## Grandma Outfoxes The Grandparent Scammers

The "grandparent scam" is particularly devious, frightening victims into thinking that their grandchild is in trouble and needs money, fast. Here is the story of one local grandma who didn't fall for it.

[Read more](#)

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## Don't Lose Your Right To Vote: Request A New Mail-In Ballot



Few Florida voters realize that their request to vote by mail was cancelled effective January 1, 2023, based on a Florida law enacted in 2021. *If you want to vote by mail in upcoming elections, you must re-submit your request, even if you have voted by mail in the past.* Read our blog post for details and instructions.

[Read more](#)

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## CCRC: Right For You?

Continuing Care Retirement Communities offer a full range of services: independent living, assisted living, short-term rehab, memory care, skilled nursing. The arrangement can provide residents with peace of mind, but it doesn't come cheap. From *Kiplingers*, what to consider if you're thinking about buying into a CCRC.

[Read more](#)

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## Tax Time Approaches



Rebecca Maglio, CPA, has been part of The Karp Law Firm team for more than two decades. If you wish to retain her to prepare your taxes, call her at (561) 472-6066 or email her at [rmaglio@karplaw.com](mailto:rmaglio@karplaw.com). You need not be a client of our law firm to use her services.

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## Schedule A Speaking Engagement

We thank Beverly Lavoie for arranging Attorney Joe Karp's speaking engagement at the lovely Summerville community in Stuart. The turnout was great! See a photo of the event [here](#). To arrange for a talk for your community or organization, get in touch with Deborah Karp at (561) 472-6062.

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## New Area Code For Palm Beach County



Florida is experiencing a record-setting influx of new residents. Palm Beach County is one of the top destinations. Because there are too few 561 area code numbers to go around, starting on March 10 all new phone numbers issued in the county will be assigned a new area code: 728. Do not worry if you have an existing 561 number: it will not change.

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## Contact Us For All Your Legal Needs!

We urge you to contact The Karp Law Firm for all your legal needs. If your issue is one our firm does not handle, we will do our best to direct you to someone who can help. Call (561) 625-1100 or email us at [kf@karplaw.com](mailto:kf@karplaw.com)



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