



The Law Firm of
**KAVESH,
MINOR &
OTIS, INC.**

Estate Planning Specialists
for your peace of mind®

THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES & ORANGE COUNTY

1.800.756.5596



In This Issue

Happy Holiday Stories
from the KM&O Staff

Holiday Stress-Busting
Words of Wisdom

Holiday Recipe: Spicy
Gingerbread Men

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Living Trust Seminars

For the public and also for our
existing clients who want to bring
family or friends!

Saturday, January 12th

9am to 11:30am

Torrance Marriott

Free Breakfast Served

REGISTER 

Thursday, January 17th

9am to 11:30am

Torrance Marriott

Free Breakfast Served

REGISTER 

Saturday, January 26th



Happy Holidays from All of Us!

All of us at Kavesh, Minor & Otis want to wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season filled with lots of love, joy, time with family and traditions. Some of the attorneys and staff members wanted to share with you their family traditions. Enjoy their fun stories!

This is a sample of our monthly e-mail newsletter. To sign up to receive our newsletter, go to www.kaveshlaw.com or call 1-800-756-5596.

9am to 11:30am
Torrance Marriott
Free Breakfast Served

REGISTER 

**View Our Living Trust
Seminar Preview**



Client Review Seminar

This is a seminar for our existing clients who have not been in for their free 3-year review meeting, so they may hear about all of the changes in laws, planning technology and services that we now offer.

Wednesday, January 9th
10am to 12pm
Main Torrance Office
Light Refreshments

REGISTER 

Tuesday, January 22nd
6:30pm to 8:30pm
Main Torrance Office
Light Refreshments

REGISTER 

To reserve your seat at one of our seminars, simply click the "REGISTER" link under the event you wish to attend or you may also call us at 1-800-756-5596 or [e-mail us](#).

Quick Links

[Company Website](#)

[About Us](#)

Megan DeLaGarza, Executive Assistant to Philip Kavesh



Megan and her husband, AJ (two at right), with her family last Christmas in Maryland

Christmas time is definitely my favorite time of the year. I have lots of fun memories of attending the annual Christmas Eve service at church and the cookie social afterwards, waking up super early on Christmas morning to open gifts (my Mom's order to "wait until 5am!"), visiting with my entire extended family (I have 16 first-cousins on just my Mom's side!), and even the excitement of the first time I purchased presents for my family with my *own* money.

One of my favorite memories involves my brother, Jeff, one of my three siblings, closest to me in age. Growing up, Jeff and I used to always search the house for the presents we thought our Mom bought, just to confirm our suspicions of whether or not Santa was "real". Turns out, my Mom was slick and found new places to hide the gifts every year - - one year locked in the shed and another locked in the dirt bike trailer - - but we never found them. One year, Jeff and I even dressed as "spies" in all black garb and tried quietly sneaking down the steps to catch Santa in action. Never happened!

I also remember one year that I, my brothers and sister ran downstairs, probably at 5am on the dot, to see what Santa brought. Much to our surprise, there was nothing under the tree - - no presents at all for that matter. We were in complete shock! My parents hinted that Santa might have dropped the

[Seminars](#)

[Blog](#)

[Media Center](#)

[Why Choose KM&O?](#)

[Publications](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Like us on [Facebook](#) 

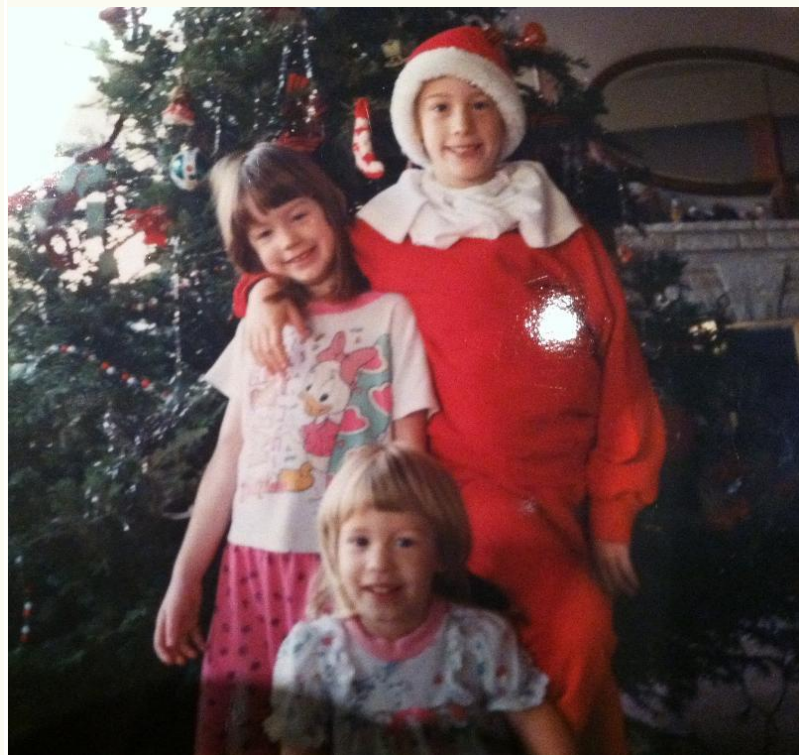
Follow us on [twitter](#)

View our videos on [YouTube](#) 

gifts off in the basement, so we scrambled down another flight of stairs to find our gifts. It's funny to think back on the excitement of Christmas morning!

Now that my high school sweetheart and I have gotten married and moved to California, our tradition has become flying 3,000 miles home, with several pieces of luggage full of gifts and our sweet dog in tow, to see our families. We attend the Christmas Eve service at my parents' church after spending the afternoon with both of our families. Christmas morning is still just as exciting as it was as kid, even if we don't wake up at 5am, and "Santa" still makes a visit during the night. My Dad makes a big breakfast and then we run the roads the rest of the day to hit all the get-togethers and make sure we spend time with all of our relatives (we each have huge families!).

Tracy Collins, Client Care Coordinator



Tracy (left) with her sisters on Christmas morning

Growing up, I remember every Christmas Eve we would go to my aunt's house for dinner (to visit my Dad's side of the family). During the drive, my Dad would sing along to Christmas carols on the radio. My Mom always made sure Christmas morning was very exciting. My sisters and I would go to sleep with nothing under the Christmas tree and by

Christmas morning the floor was filled with gifts. My Mom would start wrapping all the presents late at night on Christmas Eve; she would be up until nearly 3 o'clock in the morning getting everything ready. She would take carrots and put them on our deck railing to make it look like Santa's reindeer came and had a snack, and of course Christmas cookies and milk for Santa (AKA Mom!). As soon as the sun would start to rise, my younger sister would get everyone up to open the presents. My poor Mom spent hours wrapping gifts and only a few hours would go by before they were torn apart! Later in the morning the rest of my Mom's side of the family would come over for breakfast.

One gift I remember getting as a child was a Mother Goose tape player - - it came with books and audio tapes and Mother Goose would read you the story; it was actually pretty cool.



Now that my sisters and I are older we have to split our time during the holidays with our significant others' families, but we still make sure we are all together on Christmas morning at my parent's house to open gifts - - we just get to sleep in a little later!

Joanna Gomez, Administrative Assistant

My best Christmas would probably be the one when I was nine years old. It was the last Christmas with my grandmother, who was the only one that was able to unite all our family. I can vividly remember all of the women in the family - - from all generations - - gathering in the kitchen, making one of our family's favorite holiday traditions, homemade "tamales" from scratch. Meanwhile, all of the men were outside making a bonfire and spending time together.

After eating dinner, we would all gather together for a family talent show. We would then play numerous games together as a family. One of my favorites was imitating other family members.

Then around 9pm, we would say a few prayers, followed by a live "play" or reenactment of what Mary and Joseph went through, as taught to us in our Catholic religion. After we finished, the adults would drink the "ponche" and "champurrado" while they watched the kids break open the

This is a sample of our monthly e-mail newsletter. To sign up to receive our newsletter, go to www.kaveshlaw.com or call 1-800-756-5596.

piñata filled with candies and treats.


By the time all this was over, it was close to midnight and we would go inside and rock the baby Jesus, give him a kiss and thank him for what we have and pray for blessings in the new year. This was then followed by opening gifts and presents.

After my grandmother passed away, my family lost a lot of these traditions. I am excited to go to Mexico again this Christmas, where I can hopefully recreate the Christmas traditions we used to celebrate in my family. I would love for our family to continue these traditions so that we can pass them along to future generations to come!

Do you and your family have your own holiday traditions that you'd like to share with us? If so, we'd love to hear them! E-mail them to kristina.schneider@kaveshlaw.com.

Some Words of Wisdom for Battling the Stress of the Holidays

The holiday season can be stressful to many people. Between traveling, preparing the house for guests, balancing your budget for holiday gifts, buying people holiday gifts, then wrapping them and everything else that comes with the holiday, it can be a very busy and chaotic time of year. We hope these stress-busting quotes will help get you through this holiday season.

 *As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same.*

Donald E. Westlake

How we perceive a situation and how we react to it is the basis of our stress. If you focus on the negative in any situation, you can expect high stress levels. However, if you try and see the good in the situation, your stress levels will greatly diminish.

Catherine Pulsifer

For fast-acting relief, try slowing down.

Lily Tomlin

Some of the secret joys of living are not found by rushing from point A to point B, but by inventing some imaginary letters along the way.

Douglas Pagels

Sometimes the most important thing in a whole day is the rest we take between two deep breaths.

Etty Hillesum

There must be quite a few things that a hot bath won't cure, but I don't know many of them.

Sylvia Plath

This is a sample of our monthly e-mail newsletter. To sign up to receive our newsletter, go to www.kaveshlaw.com or call 1-800-756-5596.

Source: www.huffingtonpost.com

Holiday Recipe: Spicy Gingerbread Men

The holiday season is a time to enjoy food, baking and time with loved ones. That being said, we are pleased to provide you this delicious Gingerbread recipe, care of the folks at AllRecipe.com.



INGREDIENTS:

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour	1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 cup sugar	1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 cup molasses	1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 cup margarine	1 teaspoon ground cloves
1 egg yolk	1 teaspoon ginger
	1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, cream together the margarine and sugar until smooth. Stir in molasses and egg yolk. Combine the flour, salt, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, and nutmeg; blend into the molasses mixture until smooth. Cover, and chill for at least one hour.

2. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut into desired shapes with cookie cutters. Place cookies 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets.
3. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven, until firm. Remove from cookie sheets to cool on wire racks.

Frost or decorate when cool...and ENJOY!

This sample newsletter is brought to you by:



The Law Firm of
**KAVESH,
MINOR &
OTIS, INC.**

Estate Planning Specialists
for your peace of mind®

1-800-756-5596 | www.kaveshlaw.com | info@kaveshlaw.com

**This is a sample of our monthly e-mail newsletter.
To sign up to receive our newsletter,
go to www.kaveshlaw.com or call 1-800-756-5596.**