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The Law Firm of  
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MINOR &  
OTIS, INC**

Estate Planning Specialists  
*for your peace of mind®*

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## JULY 2025 ISSUE

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## Summertime and The Living Was Easy By Attorney, Phil Kavesh




*One of a series of personal reflections upon growing up in small town America in the 60's*

It was June of 1964, a wonderful time in rural South Jersey. (Or, at least, that's the way my selective or "embellished" memory recalls it now.)

I was riding high, just having served as 6th grade class and elementary school president (a largely ceremonial position, forcing me to lead flag salutes and kick off the annual school party by dancing with a girl, yuk!). Maybe I was riding (or shall I stay standing) a little too high, as I was already 6 foot tall at the age of 12 and the top of my head was cut off my class photo!

That summer of '64 was a unique

Subscribe	Past Issues	<a href="#">Client Testimonials</a>	age of innocence and optimism. The terrible tragedy of our young, handsome, charismatic President Kennedy's assassination the previous November was replaced by the insanely euphoric arrival of the Beatles to America (yeh, yeh, yeh!).	Translate ▾	RSS 
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## RECIPE RECOMMENDATION

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## LIVING TRUST SEMINARS

For those who don't yet have a Trust, but also those who have one and may need to review and update it! Both the public and our existing clients are invited - - and please bring your family or friends!

*NOTE: All of our seminars listed below are now being held in-person. If you, or someone you know, would like to attend a seminar, but cannot attend a live one, please [send us an e-mail](#) so we can explore other options.*

*(Also note: We may provide services to anyone residing in California without them having to travel to our offices.)*

### IN-PERSON LIVING TRUST SEMINARS

**TUESDAY,  
July 8th**

9:30am - 11:30am  
Torrance Main Office  
990 W. 190th Street  
Suite 500 (5th Floor)  
Extremely Limited Capacity

REGISTER

**SATURDAY,  
July 12th**

9:30am - 11:30am  
Torrance Main Office  
990 W. 190th Street  
Suite 500 (5th Floor)  
Extremely Limited Capacity

REGISTER

**WEDNESDAY,  
July 23rd**

## The Boys in the Hood

I was fortunate to be surrounded with a lot of neighbourhood boys about the same age. And we found lots of "stuff" to do every day of summer school break (of course, when my parents asked, "What did you do today?", I just replied "stuff" and that was good enough). The fact is, we didn't really get into too much mischief (that started about the next year, when we became teenagers!).

We boys in the hood did have a wonderful daily routine. We'd go outside in the morning and play baseball in an empty lot nearby or go to play basketball at a kid's house that had a rim and backboard attached to the garage or a pole in the concrete driveway. But by mid-day it just got way too hot and humid to play outdoors. So, after a lunch break back at each of our homes, we met up again in one of the kids' basements (about the coolest place around, since air conditioning was a rare luxury then). We threw darts usually (usually, not at each other), shot pool and played cards (not for money, yet).

Of course, we did like to occasionally get out of the basement and embark on trips to the candy store, custard stand, or movies, so we needed a little jingle in our pockets. Necessity was the mother of ... entrepreneurship! We came up with all kinds of clever ways to make money...

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## Famous Estate Disputes and How to Avoid Their Pitfalls

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## FREE REPORT



After working so hard to provide for your family, it would be a tragedy if you were unable to pass on the fruits of your labor after your passing. Unfortunately, there are plenty of mistakes that can reduce the amount of an estate and threaten your family's future. These simple errors happen far too often, usually because people do not have accurate estate planning information.

### ***You Can Avoid Common Estate Planning Mistakes***

When you download your free copy of our book entitled, "The 10 Biggest Estate Planning Mistakes People Make", you will learn the biggest misconceptions and myths that can have a devastating effect on your relatives and property, as well as the actions you should take NOW to avoid future heartaches.

[DOWNLOAD REPORT](#)

Celebrity estate battles serve as a powerful reminder that estate planning isn't just for the wealthy or famous. Whether you have modest savings or substantial wealth, lacking a clear, legally sound plan can cause stress, conflict, and costly legal issues for your loved ones.

While high-profile disputes often make headlines, these same challenges can affect anyone. Without a valid Will—or better yet, a comprehensive Living Trust—your estate may face probate, delays, and unnecessary expenses.

Even with a Will or Trust, if it's poorly written, outdated, or vague, your family could still end up in court. The celebrity cases below highlight what can go wrong when estate planning is overlooked.

### **Aretha Franklin: The Case of Conflicting Handwritten Wills**

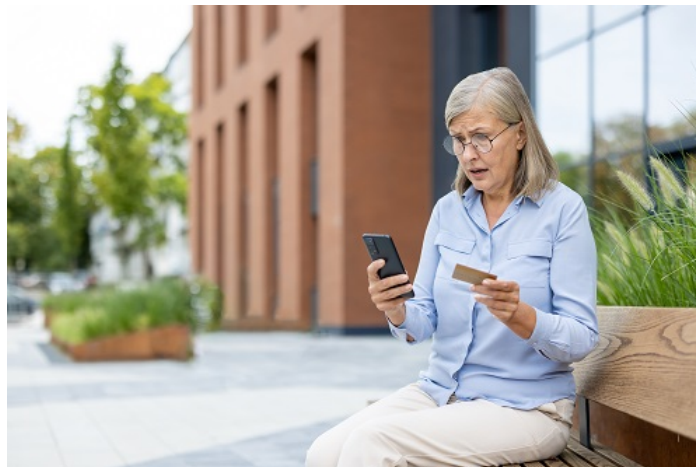
When music icon Aretha Franklin passed away at her home in Detroit, Michigan, on August 16, 2018, a lengthy legal battle ensued as her family sought to determine whether several handwritten notes found in her home qualified as valid Wills.

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## SENIOR ALERT:

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## Recognize and Stop Financial Scams Before They Happen

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Financial exploitation of older adults involves two main types of crimes: financial abuse by someone the elder knows and trusts, and financial fraud committed by strangers. Both can cause serious financial, physical, and emotional harm.

Financial abuse often involves family members, caregivers, or trusted professionals misusing their access to an elder's money or property. This includes abusing powers of attorney, stealing debit or credit cards, forging signatures, coercing elders through threats, or misusing guardianship. Caregivers or nursing home staff may also steal valuables or pressure elders into giving up financial control.

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## RECIPE RECOMMENDATION: SUMMER SQUASH PASTA



This 20-minute Summer Squash Pasta recipe is a simple yet elegant way to make the most of seasonal produce. With tender zucchini and yellow squash ribbons tossed in nutty brown butter and finished with creamy goat cheese, it's a dish that feels both light and satisfying. Quick enough for a



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weeknight meal but special enough for guests, this pasta brings together fresh flavors and comforting textures in every bite.

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## **INGREDIENTS**

- 8 ounces of your favorite pasta
- ¼ cup pine nuts
- 5 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 small zucchini squash, sliced into rounds
- 1 small summer squash, sliced into rounds
- kosher salt
- freshly cracked black pepper
- 4 ounces goat cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup fresh basil leaves



## **DIRECTIONS**

### **Cook the Pasta**

- Bring a pot of salted water to a boil.
- Cook the pasta according to the package instructions.

### **Toast the Pine Nuts**

- While the pasta cooks, heat a skillet over medium-low heat.
- Add the pine nuts and stir often until they're golden and fragrant (about 5–6 minutes).
- Remove from heat and set aside.

### **Brown the Butter & Cook the Squash**

- In another skillet, melt the butter over medium heat.
- Whisk or stir constantly until golden brown bits form on the bottom (this takes a few minutes).
- Add the garlic and sliced squash to the butter and toss to coat.
- Cook for about 5 minutes, until the squash is softened.
- Season with salt and pepper.

### **Combine Everything**

- Once the pasta is done, drain it and add it to the skillet with the squash.
- Lower the heat and toss everything together so the pasta is coated with the butter.
- Crumble in the goat cheese and stir gently to mix.
- Add more black pepper to taste and toss in the toasted pine nuts.

### **Finish & Serve**

- Stir in fresh basil right before serving.
- Serve immediately while warm.

ENJOY! 😊

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***"Kavesh, Minor & Otis have been our Estate Planning Attorneys since 2017. Ms. Lee has handled our account since 2019. The firm is extremely professional and competent and provides a range of very complete Estate Planning products. Ms. Lee is very, very attentive to our needs and questions. She is an excellent attorney and has always given us great advice. We highly recommend Kavesh, Minor & Otis, and Ms. Lee in particular, to anyone who needs Estate Planning advice and a Living Trust created for them."***

—Joe P.

***"Excellent experience! Peter Keon is thorough and professional. He made us feel at ease and answered all of our questions. He has extensive knowledge of the tax laws and advised us accordingly. The staff is friendly and efficient. Trust your estate planning to Kavesh, Minor, & Otis!"***

—Joy Y.

***" Good service, accurate paperwork submission and validation, professional representation of information. Thank you for your work."***

—Svetlana L.

***"We have been a client of the Law Firm of Kavesh, Minor & Otis for decades. Their knowledge and skill in preparing and executing Living Trust inspires confidence. We appreciate their regular update seminars and the offer of free evaluation of our estate plan every 3 years."***

—Elaine B.



Thank you for these wonderful client reviews (all from real clients!). We know that our clients and all the members of our community have many options to choose from when it comes to assisting with their estate planning needs. It is very gratifying to us that people put their trust in us to help them with these important decisions that will impact them and their loved ones for years to come.

Many of our clients have asked how they can support us in return and they have done so by not only referring their friends and family (for example by forwarding this e-mail newsletter), but also by taking the time to leave us an online review (which we'd really appreciate, if you haven't done so already). Below are a couple of websites you can choose from to leave a quick online review of your experience with our firm.

Thank you, in advance, for your help! We look forward to continuing to serve you and your loved ones for many more years to come!



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## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

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“We must be impatient for change. Let us remember that our voice is a precious gift and we must use it.”

—Claudia Flores, Clinical Professor of Law

## OFFICE LOCATIONS

### MAIN OFFICE

#### TORRANCE OFFICE

990 W. 190th Street, Suite 500  
Torrance, CA 90502

### TELEPHONE NUMBER

**1.800.756.5596**

### OTHER LOCAL OFFICES

#### PASADENA OFFICE

790 E. Colorado Blvd., 9th Floor  
Pasadena, CA 91101

#### ORANGE OFFICE

333 City Drive West, 17th Floor  
Orange, CA 92868

#### WOODLAND HILLS OFFICE

5850 Canoga Avenue, 4th Floor  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

#### NEWPORT BEACH OFFICE

5000 Birch Street, Suite 8000  
Newport Beach, CA 92660



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*The testimonials in this newsletter and throughout our website were provided by actual clients. To maintain their privacy, their names may be abbreviated and their photos are not shown. Please note that testimonials do not warrant, guarantee or predict your particular results. Actual client testimonial letters may be viewed by you in several "Thank You" books, proudly displayed at our main office lobby.*

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