



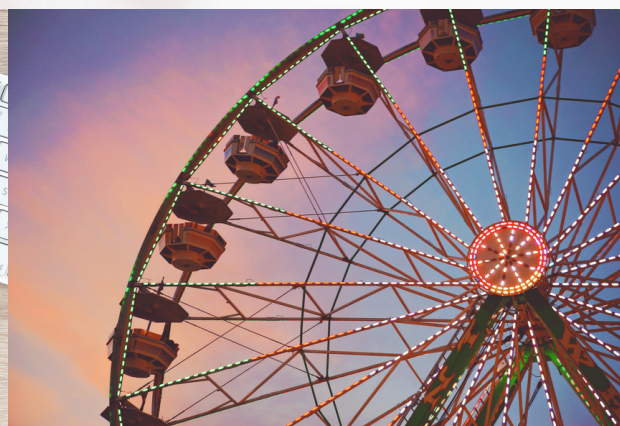
InComplete THOUGHTS

A Newsletter
*about life, death,
and things
in between...*



July 2023
Inside the Issue

Vol 13



IN CONTEMPLATION

The staff at Complete Estate & Probate Law contribute and discuss what's on their mind..

THINGS TO KNOW

We share updated information about estate planning, and things in the news that might affect or interest you.

RECOMMENDATIONS

What we're reading, watching, cooking, celebrating or otherwise doing outside of work.

Also included: Legacy Corner

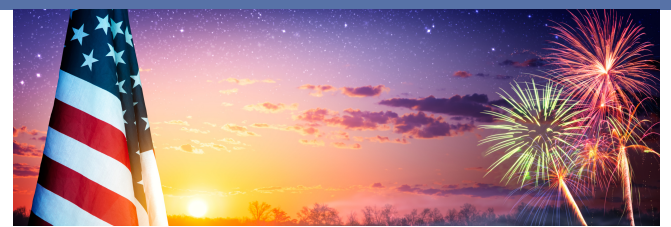
IN CONTEMPLATION...

by Amanda Daudert

I was 23 years old when I made the decision to leave everything I had ever known in California and move to Hawaii to be with my husband, who was enlisted in the military. The support of some friends and family accompanied this decision, while others believed it would eventually lead to divorce. In a matter of months, my entire childhood went into moving boxes and across the Pacific Ocean.

I cried that entire plane ride. The realization that I wouldn't see my mom and grandma every day hit. I cried for all the missed birthdays of my nephews and nieces, the school activities, and the family holidays of which I would no longer be a part. My heart ached for months, perhaps even the entire first year.





Fourth of July Festivities

Stars & Stripes Picnic - National WWI Museum

- National WWI Museum and Memorial is hosting a Stars and Stripes Picnic where you can eat, shop, and listen to live music. Fireworks to start at 9:40 p.m.

Parkville 4th of July Celebration

- This free celebration is located at the Historic Downtown Parkville, where you can enjoy breakfast, community parade, food, kid activities and skydiving exhibition. The fireworks finale is at 9:30 p.m.

Worlds of Fun

- Want to spend your day riding the thrilling new Zambezi Zinger? Enjoy a day at the park and end it with fireworks over the park.

Overland Park Star Spangled Spectacular

- Located at Corporate Wood's Founders Park, there will be a free concert, food trucks and fireworks starting at 10 p.m.

Celebration in the Park - Leawood City Park

- Join in on live music, food trucks, fun for the whole family. There will be shuttle busses to and from City Park at no costs. Fireworks start at 9:45.

RECOMMENDATIONS

By Amanda Daudert

Travel Food

My husband and I are huge foodies. While you are out traveling to California and Hawaii, or visiting your family/friends in the military, check out some of our favorite restaurants. Each of these places hold special memories for us.

Hawaii

Island Vintage Coffee

- Who doesn't like a good cup of coffee, At Island Vintage, I would recommend the Island Latte Iced – macadamia nut with a hint of coconut. Their coffee is creamy and delicious with lots of island flavors.

Kiani's Original Guava Chicken

- Kiani's used to only be on Schofield Barracks. He became popular enough that he expanded to a location in Wahiawa. All the plates are bento style, rice, mac salad and protein. The guava chicken will not disappoint, you can even buy a bottle of the specialty sauce and bring it home.

Impossibles Pizza

- Sitting on the North Shore of Oahu, next to Sharks Cove and Foodland, you will find a food truck with my favorite pizza. There is nothing like snorkeling and walking over to buy a slice or a whole pie. Whichever you choose, prepare for it to be larger than the plate or box. Don't forget the garlic ranch!

California

Mario's Palace

- Located in Riverside California, next to the Mission Inn, Mario's Place is an Italian eatery that provides both inside and limited outdoor seating. We have ordered almost the entire menu and without fail the calamari and Penne Rigate are a must. If you find yourself there during Christmas time, you will get to enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights the Mission Inn holds each year.

Limon

- Now only located only in North California near the bay, is a modern Peruvian restaurant. Limon used to be a Friday night regular when they had a location in Hawaii. Their adult beverages were always fun a delicious with various flavors. You cannot miss out on the empanada's plater with their delicious house ají amarillo sauce.



This summer, Polly and her family are traveling to Guatemala to assist with an organization called Casa de Mi Padre. The ministry provides refuge and shelter for needy children coming from poverty, shattered homes, abandonment or who are orphaned through death.

The ministry is currently in the final stages of building a girl's casita which is being furnished in preparation for the girls and their house parents to move in. Please check out www.savingkids.net if you'd like to learn more or contribute. You can also provide donations to:

Child Rescue
11201 Parallel Parkway
Kansas City, KS 66109

If you'd prefer to donate furnishings please reach out to Rachel at planning@completelawkc.com for a list and drop off details.

coming soon

National Estate Planning Awareness Week Oct. 16-20
Annual Shred Event - October 21, 2023

Complete Estate & Probate Law has some very exciting news on the horizon!

Be sure to be on the lookout for more information by following us on social media and staying tuned to our newsletter updates.

Polly, Anne, Karen, Amanda S, Amanda D. & Rachel can hardly wait.....and it's not that we have two Amandas.



IN CONTEMPLATION...

continued

There I was living in Hawaii with my husband, in military housing surrounded by the sounds of men and women running cadence. I met people from all over the United States, who at one point or another, felt that overwhelming sadness I felt. In the military I felt a sense of community, everyone took each day as it came, never knowing where they would be stationed next or if they would get deployed. My fellow military friends would soon move to a new duty station and I never knew if I would see them again, but I sure did enjoy the time I had with them.

While there, I worked at an Army Child Development Center. I loved all the children that walked into our center. Military children would miss mom and dad while they were away for a week or maybe a few months while fighting for their country abroad. These little humans didn't know the immense sacrifices their parents were making, they just wanted to be whole again.

I don't intend to evoke sadness but offer a glimpse of the unique experiences and challenges the military community faces—a reality that often goes unnoticed by the average civilian. The next time you encounter someone currently serving or has served, instead of asking when they will visit, consider offering to visit them, understanding that their schedules are subject to change at the hands of others. Check on them, see if you can send a care package containing items they may not have access to where they are stationed. Be there for them and their families without expecting anything in return.

I am grateful for my years in the military community. Hawaii became my home—a place filled with the joys and struggles of early marriage. It was where friendships that began with weekend festivities grew into a chosen family. It was where I gave birth to my beautiful precious baby girl. I opened my eyes to an entire community that was simply trying to navigate their own version of normal when nothing was "normal."

To all those who have served, are currently serving, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice, thank you.



Legacy Corner

Where we share our family traditions, recipes, and other ways, we are passing on our legacy...

I wanted to do things a little differently this month and provide an art project for you to do with the littles in your life.

My daughter loves all things art. We go through phases of our favorite tools to use, which all someday or another end up on some surface in the house. For a solid month, there has been a blue fish sticker on my kitchen floor—the lamp in my room has one yellow googly eye and we have her various drawings hanging throughout the house. My house is filled with art.

For the 4th of July I figured we would do firework art. There are no fireworks involved, but I can't guarantee your little won't make it look like a firework went off in your home.

Fireworks Artwork

Items Needed:

- *Paint (any color and multiple colors)*
- *Paper towel/toilet paper roll*
- *Scissors*
- *Paper*
- *Plate*

If your children are old enough to cut with scissors, cut the toilet paper roll/ paper towel roll into strips as shown in the picture. Once you have your rolls ready, add your paint to various plates and let them use their imaginations on what fireworks look like.

Have fun!



THINGS TO KNOW

By *Anne-Linton Pond Hendrickson*

Military Matters: Keeping Your Estate Plan Up to Date

Although the vote for independence from England took place on July 2, 1776, we celebrate the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4th of each year, which marks the date Congress adopted the declaration. This triggered the American Revolution, which lasted from 1776 until it ended 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which confirmed the United States' complete separation from the British Empire. As we celebrate our country's independence, we must contemplate and reflect on the soldiers who fought for that result. I always think about the families left behind, both from that war and every war in which the United States has engaged since that time. Considering our firm's business, I also think about the inheritances and what we can do for our military persons today to help with their estate planning, as there are unique situations which necessitate keeping their estate planning current. If you are a military member, or have a family member in the military, we've compiled a list of things to consider to keep estate planning documents up to date.

- **Deployment and combat situations:** Military personnel face higher risks due to their profession. Frequent deployments, combat zones, and training exercises increase the possibility of injury or death. Updating your estate plan ensures that your wishes regarding the distribution of assets, guardianship of children, and healthcare decisions are current and aligned with your intentions.
- **Beneficiary designations:** Military benefits, such as life insurance policies, survivor benefits, retirement accounts, and death gratuity payments, often require the designation of beneficiaries. It is crucial to review and update these designations regularly to ensure that the correct individuals or other estate planning structures are named as beneficiaries. Failing to update beneficiary designations can result in unintended consequences, such as benefits going to an ex-spouse or an outdated designation.
- **Special considerations for military benefits:** Military personnel are entitled to various benefits and entitlements, such as the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI), Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, and survivor benefits. Updating your estate plan allows you to incorporate these benefits into your overall plan effectively. It can include provisions for the transfer of benefits, maximizing their utilization, or addressing specific military-related concerns.
- **Deployment-related legal issues:** Military deployments can present unique legal challenges. Having an up-to-date estate plan can help address issues such as power of attorney, healthcare proxies, and guardianship of children during deployment. Ensuring that your legal documents reflect your current wishes can provide peace of mind and help prevent complications in difficult situations.
- **Changing family circumstances:** Military personnel may experience family changes, such as marriage, divorce, birth of children, or adoption, just like anyone else. These events can have implications for your estate plan, such as updating beneficiary designations, naming guardians for minor children, or addressing child custody matters. Keeping your estate plan current allows you to reflect these changes and ensure that your intentions are properly documented.
- **Tax planning and financial considerations:** Estate planning includes considerations for minimizing taxes and optimizing financial strategies. Reviewing and updating your estate plan can help take advantage of available tax benefits, such as exemptions or deductions, and adapt to changes in tax laws. It allows you to make informed decisions regarding your assets, investments, and financial goals, considering your military benefits and future plans.
- **Deployment of digital assets:** In today's digital age, military personnel may possess various digital assets, including online accounts, social media profiles, or encrypted data. Updating your estate plan can include provisions for managing and transferring these digital assets, ensuring that they are properly addressed in your plan.

By keeping their estate planning up to date, military personnel can ensure that their unique needs and circumstances are accounted for, their loved ones are protected, and their wishes are carried out effectively. It provides peace of mind during times of deployment, mitigates potential legal complications, and helps maximize the benefits available to them and their families.



DID YOU KNOW? WE ARE HIRING!

ADMIN./LEGAL ASSISTANT
PART-TIME

Are you, or is someone you know, looking to join a drama-free work environment that provides one-on-one training? Where everyone is working towards a common goal of providing excellence for clients?

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