

June, 2017

**“At our Firm,
Your Estate Plan
is Not Business,
it’s a Personal...”**



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*“Action is the foundational key
to all success.”*

– Pablo Picasso

PEACE OF MIND

There is something to be said about that intangible quality called peace of mind. When you first start your career, the only thing you have on your agenda is... more. It doesn't matter what it is, be it – expertise, social gatherings, income stream, and the list goes on. If you take the time to reflect internally however, then an interesting thing starts to happen; material acquisition starts taking a back seat.



As experience comes into play, your inner demons appease a bit, not to say that the drive is tamed... ever! However, you do tend to question where your energy gets channeled. Not only that, you start to realize that your focused energy actually plays a great role in your overall mood, but also the person that you become.

Evolve a bit more, and you realize that resting can actually help you push your limits further than the mere act of just pushing through. As a busy body, a representative of the firm, a mother of two; inner peace is starting to take a greater role in my mind. This year, we decided to take the family to Nicaragua, a place called Hacienda Iguana. In the midst of the year and in the middle of all the active cases, it actually felt incredibly rejuvenating to take a pause in the middle of all the mayhem.

For you surf loving adventurers, this is the place! It is a developing community, about 2:30 hrs away from its capital Managua. The people are friendly, the water is warm, and the waves were... a bit bigger than what I would have liked. The last statement is not saying much however, so don't be concerned; as much as I love the sport, long boarding is more my style 😊. If I had one thing to change about the place though, I must admit that the food is not quite up to par yet. But considering the amount of traffic being generated by the U.S. market, I am quite convinced that it is just a question of time before that happens. Be it as it may, the place is incredible, a short flight

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there! We hope you are having a great time. June kicks off the official start of the summer months, and there will be plenty of kid activities for you to put in your calendar. We are extremely lucky, considering people from across the world come to visit California... Literally! Yet, this is our backyard, we get to call this place 'home' every day. Do not take that for granted ! 😊

With the daylight savings time getting longer, it appears to give a boost of energy to everyone, including later night outs. Nothing wrong with that, it's summer! This month, let us explore what to do as parents who are living in a digital age where monitoring children on their tablets is becoming increasingly more difficult. Let us also be honest, there will come a time, not too distant in the future, where those rascals will become significantly better at using these tools than we ever will. How do we supervise tools to individuals that are more adept at them than we are, that will be the challenge!

A fun book for the summer will be Improv Wisdom by Ryan Madson. The flexibility and ability to adapt will inspire you to stay nimble in your field. As you gain more experience at work, the danger you want to avoid is to become too rigid. By incorporating 'playing' in your daily life, you can keep your mind sharp and open, such is the goal you want to strive for when developing your skills.

As you spend more time outdoors in the coming months, enough can't be said about physical fitness. We highly recommend a morning routine that includes stretching and light strength exercises. Countless books have been written about the subject, but if you are just starting out, consistency will beat any 'magical' formula.

Thank you again for your readership and incredible loyalty. We remain at your service for any of your legal needs. Don't hesitate to call us @ 714-966-2646

THE OECD MISSION

If you have done any type of banking that falls outside the typical withdrawals and deposits, you may have run into a banking term used in the industry quite a bit – OECD. The acronym stands for Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development... Now that is a mouthful 🗨️. Let us look into it a bit deeper and see what that means to us, on the banker's end-users.

The OECD is intended to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. That is the intended purpose, but let us be frank, its execution tends to be incredibly onerous on the consumer level. The mechanics of the process, though a bit simplified, looks like this:

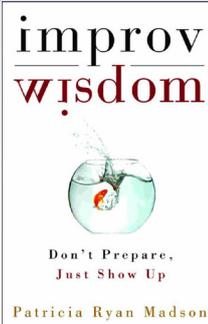
1) There is the data collection process, where the financial institution gathers the required KYC (Know your Customer) information. Then, 2) the required parties go through an “analysis” of that individual. Are there any issues we should be sensitive to about his / her past or banking activities. The required decision makers then go to 3) discussion and decision. As a quasi-governmentally owned institution, the bank must decide whether the client is one that should be considered acceptable to be conducting business within their financial parameters. After all, one bad client (or many for that matters) is indeed a reflection on the bank itself.

See, a lot of press has been released about corrupted banks accepting terrorist funds. That is a fair criticism, and cutting out funding of such activities would, at the very least, greatly slow down these types of threats to society. This is where OECD's mission is well-intended. However, such is not the way it plays out in real life. Let us cover a concrete example. A few years back, banks like CHASE and Wells Fargo decided to forego a large number of their customers. As more and more of them started to appear, a common theme started to form – they worked in the adult industry. Do not get me wrong, in no way do I condone the industry or what it stands for. However, certainly the OECD and FATCA were never put into place to make a moral judgment on people's profession. Unfortunately, when theory gets applied to real life scenarios, when banks start getting concerned about their reputation; this is what ends up happening.

Look at a hot topic in the media lately, the legalization of marijuana. Again, suspending the moral judgment one may have on the substance, the reality is that it is considered legal in many states. Yet, because banks are Federally Regulated, many of these business owners are stuck with large amounts of cash, unable to deposit their earned income... legally acquired!

We are coming to a very interesting time in human history. The regulations of banking are unable to keep up with the moral evolution of today's society. What may have been considered “wrong” years ago, is seen as nothing but a vice today; yet the treatment of such individuals do not reflect today's time with the way institutions are treating them. Industries such as UBER are revolutionizing the transportation industry. AirBnB is literally going head-to-head with the most powerful lobbyists in the nation, the hotel industry. Banking is facing similar challenges today.

Though we may be the ‘small user’ in the scheme of all these industry changes, our voices are the ones that do make a change. You may not be able to single handedly change any particular misplaced policy, but as a whole, it will be interesting to see how we, as a society, force changes upon the government. Stay tuned...



IMPROV WISDOM: PATRICIA RYAN MADSON

We naturally strive to be at our best in whatever we do. Why not? Such practice of daily focus actually brings joy to person, a sense of purpose and drive. Whether we realize it or not, we improvise in our daily lives, be it – in conversations, at work, in business or in parenting... We're known to

make the most out of what we already have with the skillset at our disposal.

Madson emphasizes that an improviser is a person who's awake, not self-focused, and he/she is always keen to do something useful as well as someone who's up to giving something back. In the book, the author describes the "13 laws of improvisation" along with useful exercises for each of the law. Some of these include just showing up, saying yes, and simply paying attention as just some of the attributes you want to cultivate. A lot of these personal developments boil down to the ability to stay in the present moment. But remember, what could be perceived as simple is not always easy!

The teachings in the book spell out a spontaneous and flexible spiritual practice of play, one that should be done daily. Author Madsen reveals that it should not feel terrifying, but rather a pathway to adventure. If you follow the exercises suggested in the book, you will learn how to pay attention, be present, act joyfully and use your imagination – and all these will come more easily and naturally.

Overall, this book is a great way to kickstart the summer! It will provide you a great perspective between family life and work balance. Life can sometimes be a balancing of many responsibilities, but there is no reason not to have fun in the midst of it all!

Parenting in the Digital Age – What You Should Know

Remember the younger days when a kissing scene would come up on TV, and your parents would make you turn your head? What about those infamous "for adults only" section of the magazine section, where you would be conveniently taken to the comics section of the store? Well, these moments are parenting are still present, however much more so in the digital era. Now, an additional layer of complexity exists with the internet.

While things seemingly become more connected and our kids growing up in the digital age, it is somehow hard to manage all the media at the same time.

As a parent, however, it is our responsibility to teach children with healthy concepts of media use. For one, media must be able to work for your family and within your parenting style and values.

Though media can enhance our daily lives, we should use them thoughtfully and properly. As a parent, we have to treat media just as we would any other things that would affect our kid's life. Thus, we have to apply the same rules and guidelines, as we would use whether in the real or virtual environment.

One tip is to know our children's friends both in the online and offline world. Technical knowledge such as what software, apps and platforms they are using should be on our radar. We should be aware of what websites they are visiting as well as monitor the activities that they do while on the internet. It may appear burdensome at first, but you must put forth the effort to shield your children from unwanted adult input. However, that is but one of the component that comes with the digital age.

We must set limitations for them so that we can encourage them to do physical activities and have playtime. Just like any activities that our children engage in offline, we must set their limits when using the web. It is also important to recognize that offline play can stimulate their creativity and promote their health. Most importantly, we must be able to join them in their playtime from time to time – it is something beneficial for all parties involved.

So even in this digital age, parents must make it a point to play and learn together for bonding and social interaction. After all, we can also play a video game with them so that we can teach them gaming etiquette and sportsmanship.

There you have some tips on how parents can be parents in the digital age.



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from LAX, and yet it feels a world away. In the process however, I realized how fun it was to just be around family. Did the kids drive me crazy? No comments 😬 but so what, that's what it's all about. These memories will be forever carved in their hearts, and we got to spend time outside our typical comfort zone. So that was the start of our summer for the year, no complaint! As part of our extended Asset Protection Center Family, I hope you don't mind me sharing a glimpse of our personal lives. After all, we know so much about you, it is only fair I share a bit of my life with you... Have a great summer!

Four Facts about Father's Day You Probably Did Not Know

Millions of people are now celebrating Father's Day. This annual holiday provides us the opportunity to give thanks to our Dads who are working hard for our families. Now to make this special occasion even better, we've prepared some interesting facts that you may not have known about your special Dad:

1. Sonora Smart Dodd invented Father's Day on June 19, 1910. She used it in honoring her father who was a single parent to six children and a veteran.
2. But unlike Mother's Day, this day was often met with laughter – a target for much parody and satire with a local newspaper claiming that it would just lead to the promotions of mindless events, including the National Clean Your Desk Day.
3. President Calvin Coolidge was the first American president to support Father's Day.
4. It is the fifth largest card-sending event of the year, according to Hallmark.

While this list isn't exhaustive, it gives us a clear idea on some interesting facts we probably did not know about this special day for our dads.

Happy Father's Day from your friends at the AssetProtectionCenter.com!