



WALT SHURDEN LAW

August 2015

611 Druid Road East, Suite 712 • Clearwater, FL 33756

Does the Buck Stop With You?

By Walt Shurden

Any fifth grader can tell you that an allegory is a short story that reveals a hidden meaning, usually moral. Here's one to chew on.

A young farmer was covered with sweat as he paddled his boat up the river. He was going upstream to deliver his produce to the village. It was a hot day, and he wanted to make his delivery and get home before dark. As he looked ahead, he spied another vessel, heading rapidly downstream towards his boat. He rowed furiously to get out of the way, but it didn't seem to help.

He shouted, "Change direction! You are going to hit me!" To no avail. The vessel hit his boat with a violent thud. He cried out, "You idiot! How could you manage to hit my boat in the middle of this wide river?" As he glared into the boat, seeking out the individual responsible for the accident, he realized no one was there. He had been screaming at an empty boat that had broken free of its moorings and was floating downstream with the current.

The moral: Proceed in life as if there is never anyone in the other boat. No one is targeting you. Don't let the kid at McDonald's ruin your day because she forgot your hash browns. She filled 75 other orders



that hour and didn't target you. She is an empty boat. In other words, you own your response to everything. The Buck stops with you in every case.

(Taken from "Triggers", by Marshall Goldsmith. A book about how to create lasting change.)

Our Goal

To provide exceptional legal service to our clients.

Estate Planning • Fiduciary Services • V.A. Benefits • Irrevocable Trusts • Medicaid Eligibility

Free Backpacks for Needy Kids



On Saturday, August 16th the Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center gave over 400 fully-stocked backpacks to very deserving children from Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, and eastern Clearwater.

Thanks to the generosity of dozens of local businesses and residents who helped raise funds in the back-to-school drive, the Center was able to provide these children and their families with much needed school supplies as well as a fun picnic lunch.

Malisa Jernigan, from our office, joined other volunteers handing out backpacks, preparing and serving lunch of hotdogs, hamburgers, fresh fruit, chips, cookies, brownies, and lemonade.



IN OUR EAR

Does my revocable trust protect my assets from Medicaid?

No, your revocable trust does not protect your assets from Medicaid. When available resources exceed \$2,000 for a single person or \$121,220 for a married couple then Medicaid benefits are denied. You can amend an existing revocable trust to make it irrevocable so that the assets will not be counted by Medicaid after five years.

Caprese Salad – Meaning Salad of Capri

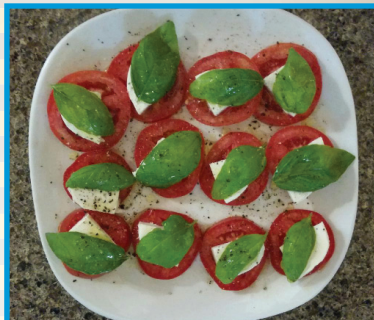
The Caprese salad is most often served as an appetizer and not as a side dish like most salads.

Ingredients

Sliced tomatoes

Sliced fresh
Mozzarella

Fresh basil
Olive Oil
Salt



Simply layer the tomatoes with a slice of mozzarella, a fresh basil leave. Sprinkle with olive oil and salt and enjoy!

In Italy it is made to resemble the colors of the Italian flag.

This Month's Spotlight

Random Acts of Flowers



RAF is a unique charity that repurposes flowers from the community and gives what would otherwise be garbage, a new life. They take apart arrangements from weddings, memorial services, and other events and make them into cheerful bouquets to be delivered to patients in local healthcare facilities. The expressions on the residents' faces are priceless.

Thank you to our Dunedin chapter for brightening the lives of our local healthcare facility residents.



Donuts for Docs

Malisa delivered donuts to Dr. Scott L. Ray, D.O. and his staff at their 2350 Sunset Point Road, Clearwater office, to show our appreciation for the exemplary medical care they give their patients. Dr. Ray was nominated by his long time patient, Ronda Pelusio, who wanted to recognize him for the wonderful care he provides.

REMEMBER. . . WE WILL DELIVER DONUTS TO YOUR SPECIAL DOCTOR.

**CALL US NOW 727-443-2708
to nominate your doctor.**



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Legal Term of the Month

Irrevocable Trust – A Trust that cannot be revoked after its creation.

How to get off the Newsletter List

If you would like to have your name removed from our newsletter list, please email your request to firm@shurden.net or call our office at 727-443-2708.

Walt being thanked by the Indian Rocks Senior Softball League for pro-bono work provided



Ocala National Forrest daddy-daughter weekend



Published for informational purposes only and no legal advice is intended. Each case is different, you are invited to discuss your legal issues with Mr. Shurden with no obligation.