Personal Note

Hi Everyone!

This is **Estate Planning & Asset Protection Attorney, Leslie V. Marenco** to bring you our newsletter and to *THANK YOU for all your REFERRALS.*
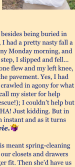
Alright alright, I know it feels like it has been ages since I've written and I'm sure you've all probably missed me! Let's see: Happy Valentine's Day, Happy St. Patrick's Day, Happy April Fool's Day, and Happy Mother's Day. Phew! Ok, I think I'm up-to-date now, right? LOL 😊

So why have I been MIA you may ask? Well, besides being buried in work due to our firm's growth (YAY!). Sadly, I had a pretty nasty fall a couple of months ago; it was your typical rainy Monday morning, and I was taking out the trash. As I took the first step, I slipped and fell... HARD! 😠 Trash flew, my purse flew, my phone flew and my left knee, leg, and ankle went crashing down towards the pavement. Yes, I had fallen and I couldn't get up! As I commando crawled in agony for what felt like forever trying to reach my phone to call my sister for help (shoutout to my little sis for coming to the rescue!), I couldn't help but wonder, "Have I updated my will recently?" HA! Just kidding. But in all seriousness, life can get complicated in an instant and as it turns out, I tore a ligament in my knee. *C'est la vie.* 😩

Anyway, *Welcome to Spring!* Growing up this meant spring-cleaning time for my mom. She had us all go through our closets and drawers and pull-out clothes that were old or no longer fit. Then she'd have us help her and my dad sift through the basement (I was born in NY where we have basements) and garage looking for clutter. The neighborhood would organize a yard sale and we'd load up anything leftover in the car for donation. Every spring, same cycle.

However, clutter is not all about the piling up of physical items. Many of us at times can feel overwhelmed by our thoughts and worries or struggle with stress or anxiety about the tasks we need to complete. That's mental clutter, and it's the most difficult kind. Now as an adult I appreciate what my mom was doing and the lesson she was trying to impart on us – the value of purging the unnecessary to make room for the necessary. What's necessary is the calm, clarity, and peace that comes with making space in our lives. Space to be ourselves. Space to enjoy what's around us. Space to be present with those whom we love.

So, in the spirit of spring cleaning, I encourage you to take some time to sift through the basements and garages of your mind and clear the mental clutter that might be holding you back from being more focused and mindful in your daily life. If you need help with this just hit *REPLY to this email* and I'll send you a few book recommendations or my Top 5 Actions Steps to get started.

To your continued health, wealth, & happiness,

—Leslie

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Live a Rich Life. Leave a Rich Legacy.
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Featured Article

The Golden Girl- and her Golden Retriever: Examining Betty White's Rumored Estate Plans in the Wake of Her Passing

We at Trust Counsel know one thing to be true: with every year comes new surprises. But on December 31st, 2021, America lost one of its best and brightest national treasures: Betty White. Known for her iconic look, her great kindness, and her diverse acting portfolio, from *The Loran* to *The Proposal* to *The Golden Girls*, Betty White was a veritable icon of the screen. However, the star wasn't just known for her talent as an actress: she was also widely known for her deep love of animals. And not too long ago, in celebration of what would have been her 100th birthday on January 17th, a huge movement began to donate in her name to local animal shelters across the nation. I know what you're thinking; that's it? Just some donations? Where's all the drama so fitting for someone of White's iconic status? Well, don't worry, readers, because I've got you covered- after all, the Golden Girls won't be the only ones sitting around with hot tea to spill.

In fact, here's where the story starts to get interesting: Betty White's unfortunate passing came just before her 100th birthday and just before 2022, but not before she (allegedly) made some interesting changes to her will. Betty White had a whopping net worth of $75 million dollars, $10 million of which came from real estate, and another $5 million in the form of the luxurious mansion in which Betty White resided. White also left behind 3 stepchildren, which supposedly began asking to be included in her will not long before her passing. *Keep Reading...*

Office Ongoings

Did I mention how much we're growing?!
Meet our new team members!

From Left to Right: (Mattia, Cynthia, Galilea, Gabriela, Jael, Liseth)

Mattia comes to us as a Legal Intern all the way from Italy. *Benvenuto!*

Cynthia is our COO who is here to help keep the office running smoothly.

Galilea is a recent FIU graduate who is working in our Estate Planning Department.

Gabriela is our newest associate working in our Estate Planning Department.

Jael is the friendly face you'll meet at Reception.

Liseth has a JD/ LLM (tax) from U of M and is also Costa Rican lawyer.

Thank You!

We would like to give a **BIG** *"Thank You"* this week to:

Sergio P
Dulce S
Cesar A
Armando F
Cristina D.
John B.

We truly appreciate your ongoing **REFERRALS** and **TRUST** in us!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS TO PROTECT THEIR FAMILY & THEIR ASSETS?

[Send us your introduction here!]

**Your referrals are the highest form of professional compliment!

Funnies

"Just in case the IRS finds me up here, I put my cloud in my mother's name."

Take the Plunge!

GET ALL YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW
& KEEP THEM THERE!

Estate Planning can be complex... but our approach isn't!

Protect yourself, your family, and your assets!

The first step is the hardest part.

Book your Family Wealth Strategy Session today!

What is a FAMILY WEALTH STRATEGY SESSION?
This is a **90-min strategy session** where we cover your specific situation and how you can protect your family from creditors and predators. At a minimum, you walk away more organized than ever before.

Call us today at
305-707-7126
or
CLICK BELOW to LINK TO MY CALENDAR!

[BOOK YOUR STRATEGY SESSION NOW!]