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**MAY ISSUE**

**Inside This Issue:**

The Second Marriage Dilemma	1-2
Warmer Weather Is Only One Reason To Move After Retirement	1-2
What Our Clients Say About Us	2

**Warmer Weather Is Only One Reason To Move After Retirement**

Many retirees, especially those who live in cold northern climates, dream about moving to warm states such as Florida.

Often a big factor is achieving a lower cost of living, but beyond the financial reasons are other issues that can be just as important.

**Family**

Next to weather, being near family ranks as one of the top reasons for moving after retirement. Being closer to your family allows you to spend more time with your children and spoil your grandchildren. In addition, someone will be there if your health deteriorates or you need help around your home. However, some grandparents who value their independence might not want to be that close to grandchildren. The solution might be to move only a few hours drive away from the family, someplace still warmer, and close enough for fewer but longer visits.

**Social network**

For many people, having a good group of friends is more important than a lower cost of living or enjoying the sun's warmth every day. This can mean staying in the community where you've established a network of good friends with whom you have dinner, take short trips and share all the aches and pains of getting older. Or it could mean moving to a different place where you know you can find a good community through church groups, clubs or a senior center.

**The Second Marriage Dilemma**



Inheritance questions tend to be easy when you've been married only once. If you die first, your assets usually go to your spouse. If you have children, you divide the assets among them equally. Unequal inheritance sometimes makes sense. For example, you'd leave more to a child who's disabled. For the sake of future family harmony, equal amounts work best.

If you enter into a second marriage, however, the choices get harder specially if you remarry later in life. How much, if anything, do you want to leave to your new spouse? If you own the house, does he or she stay in residence if you die first? In second marriages, do you leave anything to stepchildren?

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### The Second Marriage Dilemma...*continued from page 1*

If you avoid making these kinds of decisions, state and federal laws decide where your money goes. Your second spouse typically will be able to claim one-third to one-half of the assets covered by your will, even if it says something else. Joint bank or brokerage accounts held with a child will go to that child. Your IRA will go to whomever you've named on the IRA's beneficiary form, leaving your new spouse out.

If you want some other arrangement, you and your spouse must have a written prenuptial or postnuptial agreement that meets your state's inheritance laws. You'll also need to change those beneficiary forms.

Overwhelmingly, the spouse with more assets wants to make sure that the second spouse is provided for which might mean leaving them with money that otherwise would have gone to your kids.

Where assets are roughly equal, however, or in a late-life marriage, spouses might choose to put their own kids first and leave little or nothing to their new mate.

A risk that might not occur to you is the potential cost of long term care. In many states, married people have a legal duty to support each other. If your second spouse eventually needs long-term care, their assets and your assets might be tapped to pay the bills. In other states, however, your personal income and IRA might not be forfeited for a spouse's nursing home expenses.

These decisions can be tough to make, especially if you and your new beloved find that you don't agree. It's even harder to tell the kids that their inheritance might change. Overall, it's important to communicate with everyone. †

Contact Marcia if you have any questions. †

**You can e-mail us at  
Kathleen@MCampbellCPA.com to receive your  
newsletter by e-mail!**

## What Our Clients Say About Us

**“When Marcia does your taxes,  
you can rest easy. All will be  
done on time, carefully,  
professionally and with terrific  
attention to customer service.”**

~NB

**Warmer Weather Is Only One Reason To Move After Retirement...*continued from page 1***

### Healthcare

When retirees list important factors for their move, near the top is access to quality and affordable doctors, hospitals and other health facilities. Look for towns with multiple hospitals within 30 miles as well as highly rated doctors and specialists.

### Public transportation

Many people don't consider the fact that there may come a time when they can no longer drive. You'll want to be somewhere with good public transportation so you can still live independently. Some local governments provide transportation specifically for seniors and numerous agencies also have volunteers who are happy to drive seniors so they can do necessary errands.

### Familiarity and history

You may not realize how well established you've become in your community. When you consider relocating, think of all the connections and contacts you'll have to reestablish such as your doctor, favorite restaurant or gym club. These places and relationships may have taken years to find and cultivate. These places have meaning for you and can be hard to replace. †

Contact our office if you need assistance. †