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Obama Signs Tax-Cut Bill Setting Estate Tax Exemption at \$5 Million for Two Years

Congress has passed and President Obama has signed into law the deal the President struck with Congressional Republicans extending the Bush tax cuts. The legislation restores the estate tax for two years at a 35 percent tax rate, with estates up to \$5 million exempt from paying any tax (\$10 million for couples).

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Federal Program Helps Nursing Home Residents Move Home

Once someone enters a nursing home, it isn't always easy to move out again. While some residents may prefer nursing home care to living on their own, others would rather be independent. For residents who want to move out but need some assistance to live on their own, there may be help available.

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Book Review: *The 101 Biggest Estate Planning Mistakes*

Learning what *not* to do can be just as instructive as learning what to do. That is the premise of this entertaining and informative guide to estate planning.

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Do Surviving Spouses Have a Right to a 401(k) or an IRA?

When choosing a beneficiary for a retirement plan, it is important to understand how your spouse will be treated under the plan. Surviving spouses are treated differently under 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts (IRAs). While a 401(k) provides protections for a surviving spouse, an IRA does not.

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As Predicted, Social Security Closes Door on Benefits 'Do-Over' Strategy

The Social Security Administration has eliminated a loophole that had allowed Social Security recipients to start receiving benefits when they first became eligible without being permanently locked into the lower benefit level.

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Julian Gray Associates

One Thorn Run Center | 1187 Thorn Run Ext., Suite 400 | Moon Township, PA | 15108
(412) 269-9000 | julian@grayelderlaw.com
www.grayelderlaw.com

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