

# Firm Opinions™

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Probate | Guardianship | Family Law | Estate Planning | Personal Injury | Civil Litigation



Lori & Gary

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Our Team



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Think!**

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best legal experience for  
our clients. Review us on  
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# A New Year, A New Estate Tax

by: *Lori Ashmore Peters*

	2016	2017	2018
<b>Estate/Gift Tax Exemption</b>	\$5,450,000	\$5,490,000	<b>\$11,200,000</b>
<b>Annual Gift Tax Exclusion per Donee</b>	\$14,000	\$14,000	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Estate &amp; Gift Tax Maximum Rate</b>	40%	40%	<b>40%</b>

**A**s of January 1, 2018, a new tax law was put into place. With this new law, the Estate Tax Exemption amount has been raised from \$5.49 million per person to a whopping \$11.2 million per person. This means that the first \$11.2 million dollars of property a person owns at death is exempt from estate taxes.

### What other changes have taken place?

The Annual Gift Tax Exclusion has been raised to \$15,000 this year. That means that a person can give a gift of \$15,000 each year to as many people

as they choose without having to pay a gift tax or report it on their tax return.

### What to expect going forward

Tax laws have the ability to change from year to year. We can only plan the best we can based on the current year's tax laws. This is why it's so important to review your estate planning documents each year to make sure that you do not have an estate tax issue.

Stayed tuned for additional changes posted to our blog as we comb through the new tax law at [AshmoreLaw.com/blog/](http://AshmoreLaw.com/blog/).

# Senior Care Business Spotlights:

## HarborChase of the Park Cities

Coming in the Spring of 2018, HarborChase of The Park Cities Assisted Living and Memory Care is a luxury retirement community where



the finest in senior living is enjoyed everyday. It is located off of Sherry Lane in the Preston Center District.

### Assisted Living Services and Amenities:

- A fresh, nutritious and constantly evolving menu featuring seasonal ingredients and regional favorites.
- A fun, diverse and meaningful assortment of activities available daily.
- Highly trained and attentive associates truly focused on providing quality cared with dignity and respect.

### Memory Care Services and Amenities:

- Small, intimate dining area with chef-prepared meals served daily.
- A team of onsite care partners, specially trained in all of the latest memory care therapies and techniques.
- Program featuring a wide variety of fun and familiar daily experiences.

HarborChase strives to provide a wide variety of stimulating and familiar daily experiences for their residents. They have an evolving calendar of social events and programs as well as an array of unique, customized programs that are designed to enrich and enhance resident's daily experiences. Contact their office for additional information.



5950 Sherry Lane  
Suite 310  
Dallas, TX 75225  
(772)494-5374

## Ruby Care Senior Living Advisors



Ruby Care offers complimentary assistance to find the most appropriate living community for seniors in the DFW area including:

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Residential Care Home
- Memory Care
- Skilled Nursing/Long-Term Care

In order to help you best, their Senior Living Advisors network with health care providers, such as:

- Home Health
- Hospice
- Rehabilitation Facilities
- Hospitals
- Physicians

Their Senior Living Advisors will help guide you through the selection process by meeting with you in person and will assist with facility tours.

The Ruby Care team has over 30 years of experience in healthcare and have first-hand knowledge of the communities in our area. Contact Joyce Logan below for additional information.



Joyce Logan  
Senior Living Advisor  
(214)536-2979  
jlogan@rubycareseior.com

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# Firm Events



*We hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season!*





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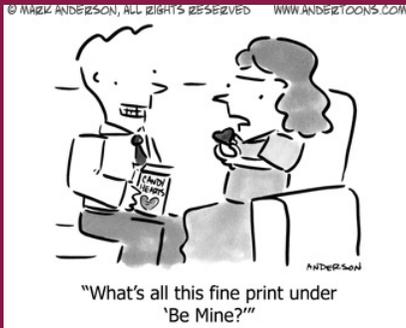
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**Happy Valentine's Day**

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*Se Habla Español*

*Welcomes*

**VANESSA SHEPPARD &  
ANGELICA FARINACCI**



*Se Habla Español*

***The Ashmore Law Firm, P.C. is proud to announce that Vanessa Sheppard and Angelica Farinacci have joined our firm.***

Vanessa has worked on a variety of contested family law cases including divorce, child custody, paternity, modification of child support as well as custody and visitation, and post-divorce enforcement issues.

Angelica has experience in contested probate and guardianship cases, as well as probate administration and assisting clients with their wills, powers of attorney, and trusts. She also has experience in assisting clients with divorce and other family law matters.

**Vanessa Sheppard**  
[vsheppard@ashmorelaw.com](mailto:vsheppard@ashmorelaw.com)

**Angelica Farinacci**  
[afarinacci@ashmorelaw.com](mailto:afarinacci@ashmorelaw.com)

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