

Jan/ Feb 2008 Newsletter for our Clients & Friends
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"A smile is contagious, be a carrier"

Visit my blog: Oklahoma Legal Help Blog--- for helpful and interesting articles relating to legal situations and how they affect you. You can either get there by going to www.oklahomalegalhelpblog.com or going to my website www.edmondgeary.com and clicking on the link on the left side of the home page that says Oklahoma Legal Help Blog

Leap Year in 2008

Most of the time, every four years we have a leap year. Since 2008 is a Leap Year that means we have 29 days in February this year, as opposed to the usual 28 days in other years. And the total number of days in the year of 2008 will be 366 instead of 365. Normally, you count on years that are evenly divisible by 4 to be leap years. But did you know that if that year happens to fall on a century year, such as 1900, that it is not necessarily a leap year?

Only if the century year is evenly divisible by 400 is it a leap year. So, while the years 1600 and 2000 were leap years, the years 1700, 1900 and 2100 are not leap years.

How and Why Were Leap Years Invented?

The idea behind our calendar is that it should match up with a solar year.... the amount of time it takes the Earth to orbit once around the Sun, roughly 365 days. However, the exact amount of time is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds, or -- closer to $365 \frac{1}{4}$ days. Hence, the need for an extra day in our calendar roughly every four years.

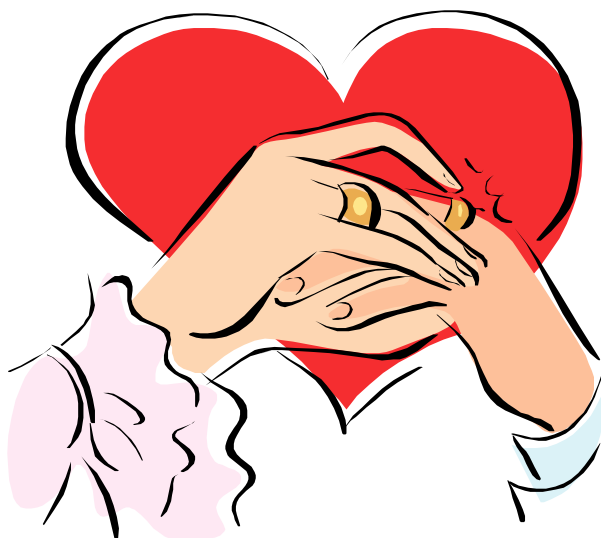
It is believed that the Egyptians first came up with the idea to add an extra day to the year, once every four years to balance the calendar with the solar year. After this, the Romans decided to use February 29 as the particular leap day.

However, the leap year every four years rule, still didn't completely align the calendar with the solar year because a solar year is actually 11 minutes and 14 seconds less than $365 \frac{1}{4}$ days. Therefore,

using a leap year **every** 4 years adds an extra day to the calendar every 128 years, which still doesn't completely solve the problem.

Gregorian Calendar Solves the Leap Year Problem

Then in 1582 the Gregorian Calendar came into being and the creators came up with the solution of eliminating leap years three times every four hundred years, thus almost completely getting rid of the problem of those "extra 11 minutes and 14 seconds". This calendar is now only about half a minute off of the solar year, meaning it will take 3,300 years for the calendar to be off from the solar year by one day, which is certainly something you and I won't be around to worry about how to balance.



Legal Story of the Month---

Defendant Ends Up Getting Married by "Valentine Judge" -- Instead of Going to Jail

According to an article I saw from the Richmond Register (in Richmond, Kentucky), on the day before Valentines Day, James Martin had a day he'll be telling his future kids and grandkids about for years to come.

It started out with him going to court in Kentucky where he was fined \$674.00 (the article didn't say what the fine was for). The problem was that Martin wasn't able to pay. Consequently, Judge Earl Ray Neal sentenced Martin to jail for failure to pay the fine.

Martin joined other defendants who were to be taken to the County Jail when the Judge was done with all items on the docket. At the end of the docket, the Judge asked if there was anything else that needed to be brought before the court. A woman who had spoken to Martin when he was sentenced, then left the

courtroom and returned shortly afterward, held up a receipt when Judge Neal asked for any other business. The woman said she had paid Martin's fine.

Next, the judge called Martin back to the bench and told him he hoped Martin had learned a lesson ...that Martin's wife or sister could have been doing something else besides rescuing him. Martin said, "She's not my wife or my sister. She's my girlfriend of 14 years."

At that point Judge Neal informed Martin that district judges could perform wedding ceremonies and "Since tomorrow is Valentine's Day, I'd be happy to marry you two at no charge," he said

With that invitation, Martin (accompanied by the bailiff) walked back to his girlfriend, Elizabeth, got on one knee and asked her to marry him. She said "Yes"

However, since they had used all their money to pay Martin's fine, they had no money for a marriage license. The County Attorney, who was in the courtroom, got into the "Valentine" spirit and suggested they take up a collection.

The Judge, the County Attorney and two others in the courtroom came up with the required \$24.00 for the license and a police officer took the bride and groom-to-be to the county clerk's office to get their license.

When Martin and Elizabeth got back to the courtroom, the County Attorney volunteered to be best man, and bench clerk, Debbie Smith agreed to be maid of honor. They used a plastic flower for the bride to hold and Judge Neal proceeded to perform his first wedding ceremony in district court.

What started out looking like a very bad day for Martin that would have ended up with him spending time in jail turned into a day of romance and joy. This was certainly a situation of a totally unexpected outcome in court. It just goes to show you can't ever be sure what will happen in court.

"A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months"-- byUnknown

Court Notes Humor: Incredible but true. These are some of the real-life answers given in the courtroom.

Q: What is your date of birth?

A: July 15th

Q: What year?

A: Every year.

Who Else Wants More Cheer

During the Holidays?

**By Christine Geary, Owner of
Organized Delight, 405-590-0110**

Getting ready for the holidays can be a stressful time. However, just by taking some time before they arrive to prepare your home for guests can make things much more peaceful when the holidays do arrive. Decluttering your house now (before the holiday rush) - or at least rooms that will be the most trafficked by guests – can make you feel more comfortable and at ease while you are entertaining. It will also be easier to do holiday decorating when your home is organized and you know where essential possessions are.

It is important to prioritize your time spent decluttering (especially if you, like most, are very busy). Certain areas, such as the coat closet, kitchen, family/living room, bathroom, or guest room (if you have guests staying over) are high priority, since they will be getting the most use and are the most visible to your guests.

Once you have prioritized, you can start the organizing process. Begin by going through things in the highest priority space. Is it something you love and use often? You definitely want to keep that! If it's something you didn't even know was there or is covered in dust, chances are that you can live without it. If it is in good condition, it can be given to a charity, or sold at a garage sale or on ebay. If it is torn up, stained, or broken it should be thrown away.

If you don't have a large amount of time one day, you can set aside a small amount of time each day to work on the project. Finish one space before moving on to another, that way you can see the results and feel a sense of accomplishment at what you've done.

Once you have finished clearing your spaces of clutter, you will be proud to show off your beautiful, clutter-free areas to guests. This will fill you with plenty of holiday cheer! Also, you won't be worrying that someone will notice that the closet is about to explode with all of the junk you shoved in there to get it out of the way!

Did You Know...

...In the first 48 hours of life, the larva of the Polyphemus Moth of North America eats its way through the equivalent of 86 000 times its own birth weight. This is the equivalent of a 7 lb (3.17kg) baby taking in 269 tons of food!

Welcome To New Clients and Thank You for Referring!

I love spending more of my time thinking about your case, various strategies and the best way to educate and help you with your legal matters, rather than spending my time doing TV and radio advertising to bring in new clients. That's why I appreciate your referral of two like- quality individuals who need to talk to a lawyer. Furthermore, I will gift your two referred friends, relatives, neighbors, or peers (not current or past clients) with a \$100 Value Consultation Certificate. Just call the office at 405-728-8223 to make the arrangements.

Health Tip Of the Month...

(These tips are not for everybody and should not be taken as specific recommendations. Before you take any action regarding yours or anyone's health, we strongly suggest you consult a qualified physician – whether your condition is a result of a personal injury caused by someone else & requiring legal help, or due to some other reason!)



Exercise for Weak Backs

Many people have weak back muscles or have injured their back and wonder if a back exercise for their back can help them feel better. Luckily, if done properly, there are back exercises for the pain in your back. Oddly enough, if you have lower back pain, an ab exercise will help give your lower back muscles the strength and tone to support your weight.

Begin by lying on your back and tightening your stomach as if you were tucking in your shirt; hold this position for a few seconds and repeat. Your stomach should pull in and be tight. Because of how your muscles are tied together, this ab exercise causes the muscles in your lower back to tighten, allowing them to become more toned.

If you have severe back problems, you may need to roll up a towel and place it under your back for additional support. Depending on the condition of your back, you may want to start slow and only do one set of ten. However, eventually you will want to begin tightening your stomach in this manner and doing crunches, but not sit-ups. Many people find it helpful to place an ice pack under their back when they finish with this ab exercise for relaxation and to relieve potential inflammation. **Of course, you should always check with your physician before initiating any exercise program to make sure it's safe for you and your situation.**

Client Quiz!

Please enter our Client Quiz. The first person who answers the quiz question correctly will receive a Free Blockbuster certificate. All you need to do is circle the correct answer below and fill out your name and contact information and either fax this to me at 405-840-9467 or mail it to Ed Geary, Attorney at Law, 5601 NW 72nd, Suite 178, Oklahoma City, OK 73132 or call in your answer to 728-8223 and leave your name, phone number and time you called.

Here's Last Month's Quiz Question and Answer!

Q. Arlo Guthrie was accused of what crime in his autobiographical song "Alice's Restaurant?"

- A. Speeding**
- B. Littering**
- C. Breaking and entering**
- D. Drug possession**

Correct Answer: B

Now Here's This Month's Quiz Question

Circle the correct answer below and either fax or mail it as indicated below the address blank.

Q. Arlo Guthrie was accused of what crime in his autobiographical son "Alice's Restaurant?"

- A. Speeding**
- E. Littering**
- F. Breaking and entering**
- G. Drug possession**

Name

Phone Number

Street Address

City, State & Zip

"3 Questions You Should Ask Before Hiring a Lawyer Plus 6 TIPS For Getting Higher Settlements in Your Personal Injury Claim and Avoid Paying for Losses that Aren't Your Fault"

If you or someone you care about happens to be the victim of an accident through someone else's fault you need

this information. As I have pointed out in the article in this newsletter, the insurance company who represents the other person at fault is not on your side and is trying to limit the amount paid out. That's why you need to be as informed as possible. Call 405-728-8223 to get a copy of our FREE Report that reveals this critical information

If you would like any additional free reports, or would like some of your friends, co-workers, relatives, business acquaintances, etc. to receive a FREE subscription to this newsletter, please fill out the info on the reply form, and we'll add them to the mailing list. We'll also send them a note with their first issue telling them that you had suggested they receive the newsletter, and to contact us if they would like to stop at any time. If you enjoy this newsletter, why not share it for FREE with people you know, with no hassle for you!

**PLEASE FAX THIS FORM BACK TO US ANY TIME: 405-840-9467, OR MAIL IT BACK TO:
Ed Geary, Attorney at Law, 5601 NW 72nd, Suite 178, Oklahoma City, OK 73132)**

YES! I'd like more FREE information on the following FREE Reports Available!

*Call 405-728-8223, or Fax to 405-840-9467, 24 hrs., To Get Any Of These Free Reports!
(When leaving a message be sure to indicate which reports you want and where to send them)
Or Check Off The Ones You Want On This Form And Mail/Fax It In!*

- "Questions You Must Ask Before Hiring Any Lawyer"
- "How to Protect Your Rights if the Unexpected Happens & You are stopped or Arrested; & Avoid DUI Guidelines" Glove Box/Wallet or Purse Mini Guide (Remember to get some for your friends and loved ones –so tell us or indicate how many of these you want)
- "The TRUTH About The Financial Loss Caused By Long Term Care"
- "10 Common Estate Planning Disasters (And How to Avoid Them)"
- Please contact me to set up a consultation regarding the following legal matter: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Best time to Contact _____

- Please add a FREE subscription to your monthly newsletter for the following people. I understand you will send them a note explaining I suggested they get this FREE subscription, and that all they have to do is contact us if they wish to cancel.

1. Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2. Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please use additional paper if necessary! Thanks, and don't forget to send in your Client Quiz answers to win a FREE Blockbuster certificate

