

## This Month's Articles

SCAN ME



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## It's National...

### Road Trip Day on May 26!



Pilot Flying J Travel Center created National Road Trip Day and it became an official holiday in 2019. It is held on the Friday before Memorial Day because of the long weekend and it kickstarts the travel season. The first recorded road trip across the U.S. began in 1903 with a fifty-dollar bet. Someone bet Horatio Nelson Jackson (a physician and automobile pioneer) that he could not travel from San Francisco to New York City in less than 90 days. Jackson, mechanic Sewall K. Crocker, and a dog named Bud, set off in a 20-horsepower Winton Touring Car and completed the trip in 63 days.

By the 1930s, the famous Route 66 opened America up for cross-country travel. By the 1950s, America was the world's largest car manufacturer, and nearly 75% of American families owned a car.



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# Estate Planning Buzz

## Mapping Out Your Estate Plan

Road trips are quite popular in our family because they allow all of us, yes dogs included, to go on vacation. And now as a family we have visited a lot of states: all 50 for us as of March, Nash - 44, Zoe - 37, and Fly has some catching up to do! I smile every time I hear the song, "I've Been Everywhere!" I feel that I have driven most everywhere. It's impossible to pick a favorite, but, we have enjoyed seeing parts of America that we normally would not, including lots of world's largest items (cow, rocking chair, pencil, ruler and more) and of course the breathtaking National Parks.

Road trips require a lot of planning and careful packing. Road trips are like estate planning, you can have maps, well laid out plans and then something changes it.

However, while problems can be inevitable, having a plan, especially a flexible one, helps to prevent any major headaches.

Despite the hiccups, the unforeseen troubles, last minute changes, or crazy detours we always remember as a family that "The Adventure Continues..."

To learn more contact us at (248) 409-0256 or [info@ferrilawpllc.com](mailto:info@ferrilawpllc.com). I look forward to hearing from you!

# Inside and Outside of the Courtroom

## Mis-Directions

In 2010, Lauren Rosenberg sued Google for \$100,000 after she used Google Maps to give her walking directions in Park City, Utah. The app took her to a busy rural highway with no sidewalks. When the app told her to cross the highway, she did and got hit by a car. The judge dismissed the case, ruling that adults still must look both ways and pay attention despite what the app tells them.

A Swedish couple wanted to visit the Italian island of Capri but instead were sent 400 miles away to the town of Carpi, an industrial city in Northern Italy, due to a misspelling on their account. The couple discovered their error only after they asked the locals how to get to the "Blue Grotto."

A tourist found himself on a trail for goats in Bergun, Switzerland when his GPS told him to turn onto what looked like a hiking trail. He said that he kept hoping each little turn would get him back to the main road. By the time he realized his mistake he couldn't turn around. Authorities had to call a helicopter to lift the tourist and his van off the peak to safety.



## Car Theft Claims

Every year, Hertz claims of its 25 million rental transactions 0.014% or about 3,500 cars, are reported stolen. Some of those reported thefts have been proven false, and revealed lapses in Hertz's rental records and theft policies lead to the errors.

For some of the innocent rental customers, the accusations resulted in arrests, felony charges and jail time. Many cases involved customers who extended their rental agreement and the extensions were not properly recorded in the computer. Other cases involved Hertz re-renting cars that were previously reported as stolen, without rescinding the police reports, causing unsuspecting customers to be pulled over by police. At other times, stolen cars were accidentally associated with the wrong customer, resulting in an arrest warrant for someone who was out of state entirely.

One customer said she was driving her rental car in Chicago when she got a flat tire and called Hertz to have it towed. Months later, when she was pulled over for wearing a seatbelt incorrectly, the officer informed her that there was a warrant out for her arrest. She was jailed for more than 30 days. Then, in Mississippi, a man spent more than 6 months in jail after Hertz reported the car stolen despite him returning it and paying in full. Several customers reported in lawsuits that they lost employment opportunities over pending felony charges and some said they were arrested at gunpoint.

In December 2022 Hertz announced it would pay \$168 million to settle 364 claims involving false accusations of car theft.

# Tips for Your Estate Plan

## Building an Estate Planning Road Map

Start with the end destination. Ask yourself what you're trying to accomplish with the plan - avoid probate, reduce taxes, protect a child from spending it all at once, leave everything to a charity - your answer will shape your plan

"Pack" the essentials. Make sure you have the right elements in place so your plan continues to work and others can take over driving with ease.

Stay flexible. Plans may change on the way - marriages, divorces, births, deaths, new laws can all impact your plan. Leaving room for updates is essential.

Create something of value for your family. Your memories, your experiences, your legacy can be passed down in many different ways beyond a handful of legal documents. Adding personal touches can make it last generations.

## Take A Break

Can you help navigate to the next destination?

