



We help successful families, business owners and real estate owners minimize income and estate tax, better protect assets and transfer your legacy and family values to the next generation.



**GORALKA**  
Law Firm, PC  
Preserve, Protect & Enhance  
Your Legacy

**The Goralka Law Firm Newsletter**  
4470 Duckhorn Drive, Sacramento, CA 95834  
916-440-8036 | [info@goralkalawfirm.com](mailto:info@goralkalawfirm.com)

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

## Learning to Drive on the Ranch

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*We sold the ranch a few years ago leaving many memories of our adventures there.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

**LEAD ARTICLE:**

[Learning to Drive on the Ranch](#)

**ARTICLE:**

[How Did O.J. Simpson Avoid Paying the Brown and Goldman Families?](#)

**VIDEO:**

[What is Probate?](#)

**VIDEO:**

[All Living Trusts are Not the Same!](#)

**ARTICLE:**



When I was very young, I was anxious to go with my father to fix the fence. Our ranch was just under 300 acres and we raised sheep and had a few horses. Our neighbors raised cattle and goats. Our perimeter fence consisted of four (4) strands of spaced barb wire and sheep fencing about four (4) feet high. Sheep fencing does not have any barbs and looks like a number of squares, each square about four (4) inches tall and wide. We were always repairing the fence as livestock from both sides would often rub, push or otherwise try to get through causing damage.

My older brother, Joe, helped my dad and I was very envious. Eventually, I was able to tag along and learned how to string and repair the fence. For this work, we typically used an ancient Jeep Wagoneer with a manual transmission shifter

[Why Business Owners Should Review Their Buy-Sell Agreements](#)

**IN THE NEWS:**  
[John Featured in Kiplinger Advisory Collective](#)

**ARTICLE:**  
[Your Voice Matters: Help Us Grow with a Google Review!](#)

**RECIPE OF THE MONTH:**  
[Lamb Ragu - From Cacio](#)

[Thoughts of the Day](#)

[Client Testimonials & Online Reviews](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

***“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”***

- Benjamin Franklin

***“There is no security on this earth; there is only***

behind the steering wheel on the column. With acres of relatively open ground, I began to drive from time to time. Very, very exciting for a kid of about 10 or 11 years.

Often we would...[Read On](#)

-John



***opportunity”***

- Douglas MacArthur

***“An enemy who seeks out your mistakes is more useful than a friend who wants to hide them.”***

- Leonardo da Vinci

## How Did O.J. Simpson Avoid Paying the Brown and Goldman Families?

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*And now that he's died, will the families of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman be able to collect on the 1997 civil judgment?*



The name O.J. Simpson stirs a number of memories, including the slow-speed chase in the white Ford Bronco in 1994. Simpson was charged with killing his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman but was acquitted. A \$33 million civil wrongful death judgment was obtained in 1997 against Simpson. The judgment was not paid in any meaningful way for the past 27 years and, with interest, has grown to over \$100 million. Simpson died on April 10 of prostate cancer at age 76.

Despite the Brown-Goldman judgment, Simpson lived a seemingly luxurious lifestyle. This is primarily due to two reasons. First, Simpson acquired his principal residence in the state of Florida. Article X, Section 4 of the Florida Constitution protects a Florida resident's homestead from creditors. The Florida homestead exemption provides two types of creditor and family protection as follows...

[LEARN MORE](#)

## What is Probate?

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*WATCH THIS VIDEO*



Probate is the process completed when a decedent leaves assets to distribute, such as bank accounts, real estate, and financial investments. Probate is the general administration of a deceased person's will or the estate of a deceased person without a will.

**All Living Trusts are Not the Same!**

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

***WATCH THIS VIDEO***



While living trusts offer a variety of benefits like avoiding probate and managing assets during your lifetime, there's not a one-size-fits-all solution. Understanding the different types of living trusts, such as revocable and irrevocable, is crucial to ensure your trust aligns with your specific financial goals and estate planning needs.

## **Why Business Owners Should Review Their Buy-Sell Agreements**

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*A recent tax case now before the U.S. Supreme Court hasn't gone well for a small business, highlighting the need for businesses using a similar (and typical) succession planning arrangement to take a look at theirs.*



A buy-sell agreement is a key component of business succession planning, particularly for small businesses with two or more family groups in the ownership structure. This issue is applicable for both corporations and limited liability companies (LLCs).

A buy-sell agreement provides for the possible or mandatory buyout of an owner's interest in the business upon the occurrence of certain stated events such as death, disability, termination of employment and divorce. Often these agreements are funded at least in part by life insurance or disability insurance.

Buy-sell agreements are needed to plan for the occurrence of these critical events, which may place the business' continued success and survival at risk. In a two partner/owner business, the surviving partner would rarely wish to be partners with the deceased partner's spouse or children, along with these possible issues:

- The surviving business owner may have to hire additional staff to cover the work done by the deceased partner.
- The surviving partner may be less enthusiastic about sharing ownership, decisions, control and profits with a passive, non-working partner.
- The deceased partner's spouse and children often do not work in the business.
- The deceased partner's family needs cash to take the place of the lost income from the deceased partner.

A properly drafted buy-sell agreement can solve all of these problems, particularly if...

[READ MORE](#)

## Firm News: John Featured in Kiplinger Advisory Collective

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*I was recently quoted in the Kiplinger Advisory Collective publication, Kiplinger's invitation-only, professional members community for*



*executive leaders and entrepreneurs.*



**Remind them they still have control**

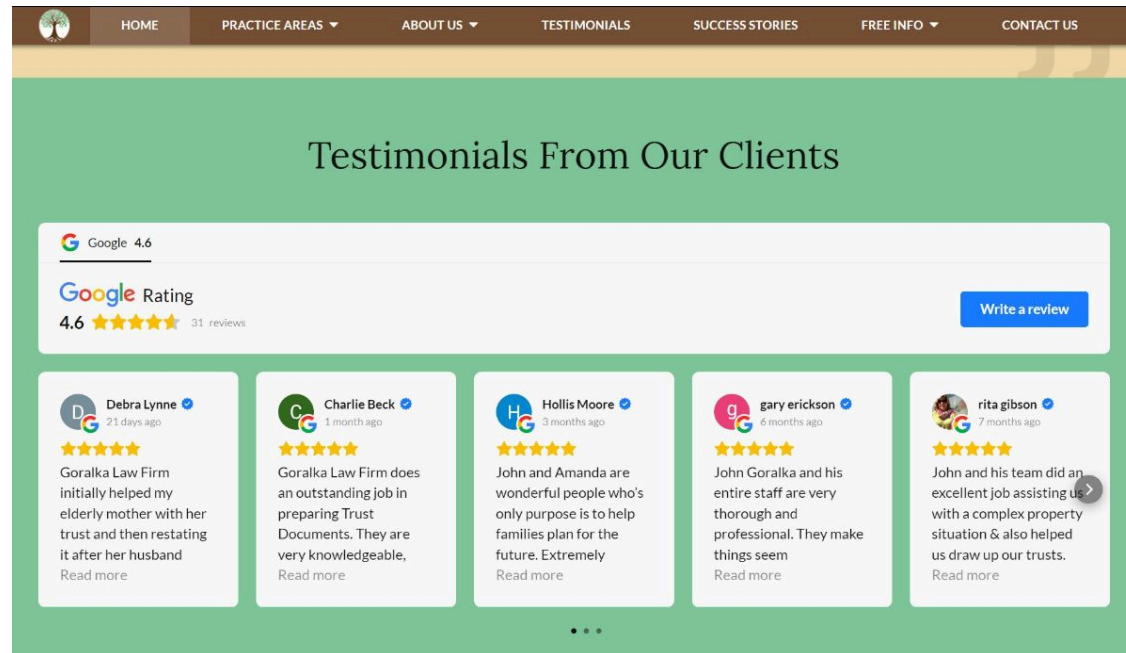
“Aging parents are enduring substantial loss of independence. The parent recognizes that they cannot physically do all that they used to do. Reaffirming that the parent retains a measure of control is important. I ask if their son or daughter can help pay bills and can be named as a trustee or attorney-in-fact. I remind the parent that they are in control and can change that in the future if they are healthy.” — John Goralka, The Goralka Law Firm

[SEE THE FULL ARTICLE ON KIPLINGER](#)

**Your Voice Matters: Help Us Grow with a Google Review!**

by John M. Goralka, Esq.

*Every review, big or small, helps us grow and better serve our community.*



At Goralka Law Firm, our top priority is providing exceptional service to every client. We understand that navigating the intricacies of tax law, estate planning, probate and trusts and business planning can be stressful, and we strive to make the process as smooth and successful as possible.

Positive feedback from satisfied clients and newsletter readers like you fuels our passion and helps us reach others who may need our expertise.

**Here's how YOU can make a difference:**

We recently made it even easier to leave a Google review for Goralka Law Firm!

1. Simply click the link below to share your experience: <https://www.goralkalawfirm.com/>
2. Scroll down to the middle of the page to the green panel "Testimonials From Our Clients"

3. Click the blue button "Write a review"

**Every review, big or small, helps us grow and better serve our community.** If you've had a positive experience with Goralka Law Firm, we'd be incredibly grateful if you could take a few minutes to leave a review. Even if you'd just like to express your appreciation for our informative newsletters, we'd love to hear from you!

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,

The Goralka Law Firm Team

## CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

*"Goralka Law Firm initially helped my elderly mother with her trust and then restating it after her husband passed away. This alone went very smooth and was handled professionally through all the steps and paperwork.*

*Unfortunately, after her husband passed away, an issue arose with the county that involved her property being re-assessed in error, which caused a huge increase in her property taxes. John and his team were a great help in getting this issue resolved. They agreed to file the necessary paperwork with the county along with copies of her trust that were needed to verify that her property never changed hands. John's team stayed in close contact with us by answering all our questions and emails promptly.*

*This whole process was very time consuming on the county's end, but*

***Goralka Law Firm made this transaction easier by making sure we had all the correct paperwork submitted on my mom's behalf. Thank you!"***

- Debra L.

***"The Staff are very attentive and follow up on questions and details. We are confident that our personal documents are now in order. Communications by telephone, email, and personal appointment were efficiently managed."***

- Carlos E.

***"Very responsive to my requests. Met my deadlines—which were pretty short. I have confidence in the Goralka Law Firm."***

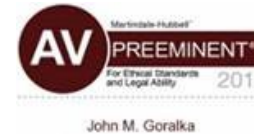
- Linda W.

**READ WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING**



Thanks to all of our clients for their business and referrals over the years. Reviews like these are a reminder about why we do what we do and reaffirms that we are not simply just preparing legal documents, but we're cultivating relationships and really helping families and their loved ones with transformational changes for generations to come.

Can you do us a huge favor and take a couple minutes of your time to leave us some feedback and a review online at one (or more) of the following websites:



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

*Lamb Ragu*

*From Cacio Restaurant in Sacramento*



Katie Kinner-Kerksieck and Jonathan Kerksieck's relationship is the kind of story Hallmark movies are built on.

The couple met while working at downtown restaurant Grange in 2008, Jonathan as the chef de cuisine and Katie as the front-of-house manager, and they bonded over the cacio e pepe he made her early in their courtship. That became the namesake for their snug Italian restaurant in the mostly residential neighborhood of Greenhaven, where the menu changes seasonally.

Cacio's owners recommend serving this lamb ragu in spring over a ribbon pasta (pappardelle, fettuccine) or short pasta (penne, fusilli).

Total Time: about 1 hour

Servings: 5-6 servings

### **INGREDIENTS**

- 2 1/2 pounds ground lamb
- 1 pound onion

- 1 pound carrots
- 1 pound celery (about 8 ribs)
- 1/2 pound fennel
- 6 garlic cloves
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fennel seeds, toasted and ground
- 1/2 tablespoon fennel pollen
- 1 cup red wine
- 28-ounce can of DiNapoli organic whole peeled plum tomatoes
- Salt to taste
- Pepper to taste
- Parmesan cheese, pecorino or ricotta salata to garnish

#### **DIRECTIONS**

1. Heat the olive oil in a 5- or 6-quart pot (stainless steel or enameled preferred) over medium heat. Add lamb to pot and cook, stirring frequently, until the meat is in small brown crumbles, about 10-15 minutes.
2. While the lamb is browning, use a food processor to finely mince the onion, carrots, celery, fennel and garlic.
3. When the lamb has browned, deglaze with red wine and add the vegetables. Stir vegetables and cook into the meat for about 5 minutes.
4. Hand-crush the tomatoes and add to the pot. Stir in fennel seeds and fennel pollen.
5. Turn the heat down to a simmer and continue cooking for about 45 minutes, stirring occasionally so as to not burn the bottom of the pot.
6. Season to taste with salt and pepper, and garnish with your choice of hard cheese.

Chef's Notes:

Baby spinach, fava beans and artichoke hearts all make nice additions to this sauce. If using, add those in a sauté pan as you toss the pasta and sauce together.

Enjoy! 😊

*Recipe courtesy of:*

*Cacio*

*7600 Greenhaven Drive, Suite 23, Sacramento*

*(916) 399-9309*

[caciosacramento.com](http://caciosacramento.com)

## CONTACT US

**THE GORALKA LAW FIRM, APC**  
4470 Duckhorn Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95834

Phone: (916) 440-8036





*NOTE: The client testimonials featured in this newsletter and on our website are from actual clients of The Goralka Law Firm, P.C. Their full names have been redacted to protect their privacy. These client testimonials do not guarantee your particular results.*

*Copyright © 2024 Goralka Law Firm, APC, All rights reserved.*