

Reading of the Will, cont. from page 1

The practice had always radiated out from Great Falls to the north. Over time, though, our market area became wider. Keith began traveling to the Flathead on a monthly basis and still does so. We also began expanding our practice to the Lewistown area and east along the Hi-Line.

Now we can boast of clients all the way to the North Dakota border.

Not many firms are as focused on Estate Planning as we are. About 90% of our practice involves Estate Planning and Estate Administration. More and more people are interested in Trusts as opposed to “Mom and Pop” Wills.

The firm team is growing. Trevor Funseth, a Great

Falls native, will join us when he finishes law school this spring, and we’re hoping to hire another lawyer in the not-too-distant future.

We have a great staff of six ladies now. Chris, Charlene and Jeanne have been with us for a long while. We have new ladies, Sam, Reena, and Tally, who are just as devoted and interested in helping our clients. It’s a fun place to come to work in the morning and satisfying to shake hands with our clients as they leave the offices saying how much they’ve appreciated working with us.

Bill has been gone now for ten years. We think it’s time to update our name to reflect what the firm has become. We’ve decided that direct and simple is best. So, **“Montana Estate Lawyers.”**

New Name, No Need to Worry—

Although our name has changed, your documents do not need too! Any documents or paperwork from our office in our name “Scott, Tokerud & McCarty” is covered under our “formerly known as” status with the Secretary of State. No need to get the documents updated in our new name.



Family

“Where love is everything and yours is so well known... that through anything that life can bring you never feel alone. Here, hopes and dreams are always on the rise. When you’re with family you’re helped to see life through loving eyes.” - Leon Baird

Each year we pick a word of the year, and this year it’s “Family.” We want to focus on what can be done to help all our families.

Our families at home come first, but the team at the office has become a family of its own. We want to balance our work and personal lives so that both can prosper. Our clients and strategic alliance partners are also family to us. We want to deepen our relationships with you all, to do all we can to help you and your loved ones deal with life in our complicated, often hectic 21st Century world.



FIRM NEWS



The Squires traveled to Arkansas and Missouri for Christmas! Time spent with parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, cousins, aunts & uncles was a great way to celebrate the season. The Grinch even made an appearance!

After 10 days of travel and visiting, Caleb, Charlene and Theo (and both dogs) are grateful to be back home for the New Year.



Becky and Keith spent a week in Philadelphia and Delaware in November. That's Keith's old stomping grounds from college days, so it was particularly fun for him. A second highlight was Hannah, her significant other, Paul, and their pup, Freya, spending Keith's birthday weekend and Christmas weekend with them. It's amazing how much energy a six-month old puppy has!

The Grimsruds spent Christmas Eve in Missoula with Tally's mother-in-law where Santa came early with a fun trip to Hawaii in February along with many other gifts. Christmas Day was spent at their home with Tally's family in Belt where she smoked a prime rib for 12 hours to enjoy for Christmas Dinner. Presents were opened Christmas morning where Santa visited again and gave Dirx the snow globe that he asked for. They spent the rest of the day cooking, laughing, and enjoying Tom and Jerry's with a friendly but competitive game of Rummy.



Jon and Rhonda were blessed with a house full of family over the holidays. They cherished watching their granddaughter Rhenn take in her first Christmas!



The Webb house was full of laughter & light as they celebrated Chanukah! Parker and Payton spent the holiday nights on Facetime with family, eating latkes, and playing dreidel (they even made their own dreidels this year). They are looking forward to Wyoming in May.



It was a special Thanksgiving for the Crosslands. Max, Merrilee, Braxton, Maizie and Clive joined Chris and Rich from Portland and Lathan from Malta.



Every year the Roberson family picks a theme for Christmas holiday. This year was zombie apocalypse! Reena's family based the gifts, food, and decorating around the zombie theme. Pictured are the matching shirts.



THE LEGACY INSIDER



Our Story: New Name, Same Values

Written by Keith Tokerud

The story of our law firm begins in 1946 when Bill Scott came back from the Navy and went into partnership with a law school mate, Ted James. Bill later practiced with Wayne Linnell and Norman Newhall.

In 1980 Keith came back to Montana after working in Texas and started dating Bill's daughter, Becky. That led to Keith and Bill frequently fishing out on the O'Day pond east of Great Falls. Keith's dad had always told him that he should have his own business, so, when Bill mentioned that he was thinking of retiring, Keith told Bill that they should talk before he did so. Pretty soon Keith and Bill were talking about going in the business together, which they did in 1986. Jon joined the firm in 1992, and we had "Scott, Tokerud & McCarty."

Bill always believed in helping whoever came in the door. Thus, we had a general practice for years. That was great for learning about many areas of the law, but not so good given the trend in the law toward specialization.

We needed to find our specialty.

So, in 2002 we decided to focus on Estate Planning and Estate Administration. That had been one of the principal areas that Bill had practiced in, and Keith and Jon thought it made sense for the future. Bill went along with the change good-naturedly. (But, if you knew Bill, you won't be surprised to hear that he never changed his views on what we should be doing.)

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Family Promise of Great Falls

MONTANA ESTATE LAWYERS, P.C.
 CHARITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Ending childhood homelessness, one family at a time.

We are excited to announce our 2023 Charity Partner of the Year—Family Promise of Great Falls. They are committed to stopping childhood homelessness through providing resources to families, such as shelter, food, education, and monetary support.

Family Promise of Great Falls is a non-traditional, non-emergency homeless shelter that provides services to north-central Montana. They opened their doors in 2015 with one simple goal: ending childhood homelessness, one family at a time.



Are you interesting in helping?

Family Promise is currently looking for :

- ⇒ Non-perishable foods
- ⇒ Diapers
- ⇒ Blankets
- ⇒ Monetary donations
- ⇒ Sanitizing wipes
- ⇒ Toilet Paper
- ⇒ Laundry detergent (pods)
- ⇒ Backpacks
- ⇒ Kids' Jackets
- ⇒ Gloves (all sizes)
- ⇒ Bottles of water
- ⇒ Socks (must be new, all sizes needed)

All donations can be dropped off at:

Family Promise of Great Falls
1019 Central Ave
Great Falls, MT 59401