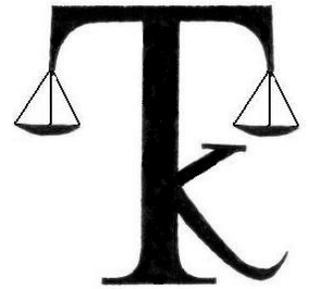


LEGALLY SPEAKING



Fall 2013

Don't assume every child will follow the "no lights policy."

HALLOWEEN HAZARD ALERT FOR HOMEOWNERS

At Halloween time children parade around in adorable costumes and delight at the drop of a piece of candy into their bucket. Families carve jack-o-lanterns and decorate their homes and lawns with spider webs, animated skeletons and flashing lights. Unfortunately, a fun-filled night can quickly turn into a dreaded emergency room visit when a child is hurt because he trips over the cord to the lighted yard decorations, or because of a fall caused by an uneven concrete slab on the driveway.

Homeowners have a responsibility to provide safe conditions for those who come onto their property. If a person slips, trips, or falls as a result of a dangerous or hazardous condition, the property owner may be held fully responsible.

By turning on your outdoor lights, you are inviting trick-or-treaters onto your property. Ensure their safety by following some simple suggestions:

- ◆ Remove tripping hazards from your lawn, steps and driveway
- ◆ Halloween decorations should not block walkways
- ◆ Walkways, driveways and stairs leading to your door should be well-lit
- ◆ Keep pets confined
- ◆ Avoid any open flames or unattended jack-o-lanterns

If you don't want trick-or-treaters, turn your outdoor lights off. However, don't assume every child will follow the "no lights policy." Be proactive and remove any hazards from your property anyway. Under Florida law, you may be liable for injuries to children who come onto your property uninvited as well. Conscientious property owners will help prevent a fun Halloween tradition from turning into a nightmare.

As a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer, Keith Taylor understands every nuance of the law when it comes to property liability injuries in Florida. If you have any questions about an injury you or someone in your family has sustained due to the negligence of a property owner, please call our office to schedule a free consultation.



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DO YOU 'LIKE' US?

The Law Office of Keith R. Taylor has a Facebook page— have you 'liked' us? This year around Christmas, our Facebook fans will again have the opportunity to win up to \$100 in Visa gift cards. Don't miss out on your chance to put an extra gift under the tree! 'Like' our page AND comment about our newsletter by December 1, 2013 and you will be entered twice in our drawing which will take place December 17.

CHARITY SPOTLIGHT: KUJALI INTERNATIONAL



Kujali International is a non-profit organization with a mission to equip orphaned and vulnerable children with the tools to overcome poverty and become powerful agents of change in their communities. Ultimately, Kujali seeks to harness the power of education and social enterprise to alleviate poverty, empower vulnerable youth, and build a more equitable and sustainable world.

Kujali International focuses its efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa, which has the highest concentration of orphaned children in the world. One in eight children in Tanzania have lost parents to HIV/AIDS, armed conflict, and other poverty related causes. Kujali aspires to intervene in ways they believe will equip disadvantaged teens in that

region with the resources needed to overcome poverty, secure employment and lead productive lives.

Kujali believes that education and enterprise are cornerstones of economic development. In 2007, Kujali co-founded the first free private boarding school for orphaned youth in Mkuranga, Tanzania. The school, which is located in a rural village, serves 100 children, employs 15 and features programs in poultry farming, horticulture and solar energy.

In 2013, Kujali began piloting a multifaceted program approach designed to “bridge” the resource, skills, and network gaps that exist for impoverished, post-secondary school youth in East Africa struggling to secure op-

portunities for higher education and gainful employment on their path to adulthood.

Kujali International strives to be a financially sustainable organization. However, donations are still needed as they work to strengthen their partnerships and build sustainable enterprises together. Kujali is a US 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-exempt.

The holiday season is a time when many people give charitably, or look for a unique gift for the person who “has everything.” If you would like to learn more about Kujali International or would like to consider them in your end-of-year giving plans, visit their website: www.kujali.org.

LOCAL CHARITY SPOTLIGHT: CITRUS FAMILY CENTER

Citrus Family Center has a mission to provide aid to children and families in need. They creatively accomplish their mission in a variety of ways.

Citrus Family Center is a charitable non-profit organization with a thrift shop to support the cost of the building. They have been able to support other non-profit organizations which focus on meeting the needs of families and children by offering office space at no cost to them.

Citrus Family Center is community focused, but children are their priority, and all of the families they support are local. They provided over 150 children with school supplies in August. They provide toys and meals for families in need at Christmas and even decorate trees to give to some of those families. Throughout the year they offer support to struggling community members from their store.

In addition to their direct aid to families and provision of facilities for other non-profit organizations, they also support the community in unique ways. They collect plastic bags for Ministry of Warmth, which weaves the bags into sleeping mats which are distributed to the homeless. They donate blankets to dog shelters, and books and hangers to Assisted Living Facilities.

This year, the attorneys and staff at The Law Office of Keith Taylor will purchase toys and collect food items to help Citrus Family Center support families in need at Christmas. We invite our friends to help us. After Thanksgiving, we will have collection boxes in our Crystal River and Dunnellon offices for anyone who would like to bring in unwrapped toys or non-perishable food items. You are welcome to bring in plastic grocery bags as well.



Did you know that plastic grocery bags can be woven into sleeping mats for the homeless? The Environmental Protection agency says the U.S. uses 380 million plastic bags, and only 5% of those are recycled. Citrus Family Center collects bags for Ministry of Warmth, which in turn weaves them into waterproof, weather-resistant sleeping mats for the homeless.

Citrus Family Center & Thrift is located at 719 S. Otis Avenue (corner of Otis and Hwy 44) in Lecanto. Donations to this charitable organization are tax-exempt as allowed by law. Contact them at 422-3043



FDA SAYS LASER TOYS ARE UNSAFE

A statement released by the Food and Drug Administration concludes that the concentrated light in laser beams deteriorates eyesight -- and can even cause blindness. Laser toys are of particular concern to the FDA because it is most often children who are injured by these products. However, anyone who comes into contact with the light, directly or indirectly, is at risk.

The report states that injuries from laser beams usually aren't painful and may go unnoticed. However vision may deteriorate over time and the damage caused can be permanent, even after one-time use.

Dan Hewett, health promotion officer at FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health, cautions, "because advertisers promote them as playthings, parents and kids alike may believe they're safe to use."

Safe laser toys do exist. When buying a laser product, the FDA advises looking for a statement saying that the product complies with 21 CFR (the Code of Federal Regulations) Subchapter J on the label. "If you buy a laser toy or pointer and you don't see this information in the labeling, it's best not to make any assumptions about its safety," Hewett says.



"Because advertisers promote them as playthings, parents and kids alike may believe they're safe to use."

FIRM MEMBERS ELECTED AS OFFICERS OF CITRUS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Adam and Jessica Czaya, associate attorneys at The Law Office of Keith R. Taylor, P.A., were elected to serve as officers of the Citrus County Bar Association. Mr. Czaya is serving as Vice President for the 2013-14 year, while Ms. Czaya was elected to serve as Secretary.

Additionally, Steven Fitchman, also an attorney with the firm, was appointed to serve a second term as Chairman for

the Family Law Section of the Citrus County Bar.

The Citrus County Bar Association was established in 1969 to serve members of the Florida Bar who live in and work in Citrus and surrounding communities.

Adam Czaya has worked at the firm as an attorney since 2011. His areas of practice primarily include Probate, Estate Planning, and Corporate and

Business Representation.

Jessica Czaya has also been with the firm since 2011. Ms. Czaya works closely with Keith Taylor on Personal Injury and Wrongful Death cases and also handles Contract and Business Litigation.

Steven Fichtman has practiced law in Citrus County since 2005. and began working at The Law Office of

Keith Taylor in 2010. His primary areas of practice are Real Estate Law, Family and Marital Law and Civil Litigation.

Together, the attorneys at The Law Office of Keith Taylor strive to meet all your legal needs. You may contact our office at 795-0404 or by visiting our website, www.keithtaylorlaw.com.

**2013
Christmas Events**

- ◆ 12/7 @ 6:00 pm- Crystal River Christmas Parade
- ◆ 12/7 @ 10 am -Christmas in the Hills Parade, Arts & Crafts in Beverly Hills
- ◆ 12/14 @ noon- Inverness Christmas Parade

CRYSTAL RIVER CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Crystal River will present the Annual Crystal River Christmas Parade December 7, 2013 at 6:00 pm. The theme for this year's parade is "Christmas Melodies," a celebration of traditional and contemporary Christmas music.

This year, watch for associates of the firm and their families in the firm's Christmas Parade debut!



*Watch for me
in this year's
Crystal River
Christmas
Parade!*

Photo: Laura Sweet

Meeting All Your Legal Needs

Current Resident and/or



Like us for a chance to win!
Details inside

TAYLOR SERVES AS PRESIDENT OF ROTARY CLUB

Keith Taylor is serving as president of Rotary Club of Crystal River for the 2013-2014 term. Taylor has been a member of the club since 1998 and has served on the Board of Directors, as Secretary of the club and has chaired various committees over the years. He has also been recognized several times as a Paul Harris fellow.

In June, Taylor attended the 104th Annual Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal. At the conference, Rotary's theme for

2013-2014 was announced: "Engage Rotary, Change Lives." Rotary's main objective is service— in the community, in the workplace and around the globe.

The Rotary Club of Crystal River has served as co-sponsor of the Crystal River Manatee Festival, packs meals each year for Stop Hunger Now, and takes underprivileged children shopping for their families each year at Kmart with funds donated by members of the club. For more information about Rotary, visit www.rotary.org.

