

Covid Restrictions End
Tax Implications on a Settlement
Facebook
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ARE YOU READY... FOR THE END OF COVID RESTRICTIONS?

by Max Meyers

Washington Covid restrictions ended June 30th or at least they were supposed to at the time of writing this article. Are you prepared for it mentally? Have you noticed an uncertainty or even fear in yourself or others close to you about ditching the mask and sanitizers and returning to pre-pandemic life? I know I have felt it.

Shelly and I are vaccinated, as are all of our immediate extended family members and everyone in the MML offices. However, the first time I skipped the mask and entered a grocery store felt weird and a little unsettling. It also felt like freedom was back in my life, just a little bit. The path forward still seems to be unknown with talk of virus variants. How do we wrap our minds around this and choose a path forward?

For everyone this is an individual choice to make. Many will throw the mask away forever and not look back. Others will keep wearing them to feel protected, as much as possible, until all variants are gone.

Coping with stress has been a constant over the past 16 months and will continue as we enter the next phase of the pandemic.

Good ways to cope with stress are:

Take a break from watching, reading, or listening to news stories

Make sure to unwind and relax

Take care of your body by eating right and getting some exercise

JULY 2021

Connect with family and friends often

Activities that give our minds a break and a chance to relax and clear stressors are key to dealing with everything we have going on in our lives during this time.

Shelly and I had a chance to meet with close friends of ours in person that we hadn't seen since the Covid lockdown started in March 2020. It was amazing how happy it makes you feel just to see close friends' faces again in real life over dinner or happy hour. If you get such a chance and are vaccinated I hope you take the chance as well.

Brighter days are ahead and I hope everyone has these happy moments as well in the months ahead.

Many wishes your summer is filled with joy and happiness!!

- Max

Did You Know that You Pay NO TAXES on an Injury Settlement?

The short answer in **Washington is generally NO** taxes are owed on money received in settlement of a personal injury claim.

Compensation for an injury is not considered income for tax purposes. You may be asking what does that mean exactly? According to current IRS law, if a car accident victim obtains a settlement for injuries suffered in an accident, which are paid by another party (for example, from the at-fault driver who hit you), the settlement money is not taxable.

Of course there are always exceptions!

The IRS generally taxes **Punitive Damages**. What are punitive damages?

Punitive damages are money that a driver is ordered to pay over and above the full value of a case. They are meant to be additional punishment because the conduct of the at-fault person was so bad or outrageous the jury or judge has decided to set an example for every other driver to heed.

The message of punitive damages is to all drivers beware, you better not do this, or you could be faced with owing a huge amount of money.

However, in Washington state punitive damages are generally not available in car accident claims.

When the media talks about huge verdicts from car accident cases, it usually is from another state that allows punitive damages.

If you are thinking about accepting an insurance company's settlement offer but don't have a lawyer, it might be a good idea to give Max a call for a free consultation to review your case and make sure you're doing the right thing.

Contact us at 425-276-7804.



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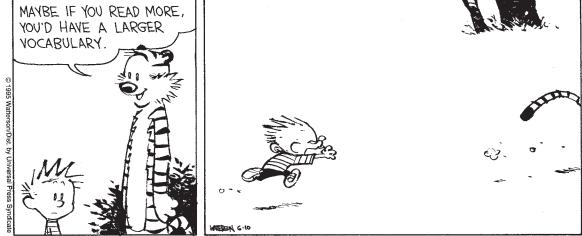
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Kla Ha Ya Days | July 14 Snohomish, WA

This event will be held July 14-18, 2021. This family parade, musical acts, car and motorcycle show and shine, frog jump contest, arts and crafts

King County Fair | July 15 - 18 Enumclaw, WA

There will be 4-H shows and exhibits, kid's zone, carnival rides, entertainment, truck pull, mutton busting, barrel racing, racing pigs, vendors, food

Bellevue Arts Fair | July 23 - 25

Bellevue Square and Bellevue Arts Museum

Griot's Garage Pacific Northwest Nationals July 23 - <u>25</u>

Puyallup, WA The 33rd Griot's Garage Pacific Northwest Nation-als will be held July 23-25, 2021. You will see more than 2,500 rods, classics, customs, muscle cars and trucks through 87. In addition, there will be indoor car show; car corral; model/pedal car show;

Kirkland Summerfest | July 23 - 25 Kirkland, WA

Kirkland Summerfest will be held July 23-25, 2021. There will be outdoor entertainment, music performances, a lively night market, face painting, balloon animals, duck dash, kid's zone, local beers Fri 1pm-7pm; Sat 12pm-11pm; Sun 12pm-6pm

Alki Art Fair | July 24 - 25 Seattle, WA

host more than 120 local artists and makers who will be showcasing their original works in various Hours: Sat 10am-9pm; Sun 10am-6pm

EVENTS

Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

SOUTHWESTERN BLACK BEAN, QUINOA AND MANGO SALAD

Ingredients:

- 15 ounce can black beans, no salt added, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup cooked quinoa (red or tri-color), according to package directions
- 1 cup fresh or frozen corn
- 1 small red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 cup chopped fresh mango
- 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro

- 1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely diced
- Juice from 1 medium lemon or lime
- 1 1/2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1/4 tsp ground turmeric



Mix together the beans, quinoa, corn, bell pepper, mango, onion, cilantro, and jalapeno in a mixing bowl. Whisk together the lemon juice, olive oil, garlic, cumin, chili powder and turmeric in a small bowl. Drizzle over the mixture and toss. Refrigerate until ready to serve.





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DREAM BUILDING MAXPOWER LAW SPONSORS **B. CARL MOTORSPORTS**

One of Max's friends has a son, Bryant Carlson, who races Legends level race cars. We at MaxPower Law are sponsoring Bryant for his 2021 race season. Below is Bryant's race schedule in case you want to check out a race. Some Evergreen Speedway races are on TV channel CW 11.

Bryant is a 27 year-old young man who has been in racing his whole life. He grew up in the race pits watching and helping his Dad race cars around Washington. Bryant's Legend car is a fun pint-sized race car powered by a Yamaha FZ motorcycle engine. These small Legend cars pack a punch and can get up to top speeds of 85 mph.

Last year Bryant finished 2nd in the Legends season championship. He's hoping to taking the next step and win it all this year.

Best of Luck Bryant!!

Check out Bryant's Facebook racing page for schedule updates: www.facebook.com/bcarlmotorsports



2021 RACE SCHEDULE BRYANT CARLSON

June 26th - Evergreen Speedway July 23rd & 24th - Evergreen Speedway August 14th - Evergreen Speedway August 28th - Evergreen Speedway September 25th - Evergreen Speedway Championship Night













