Ken Raggio is a shareholder of the Dallas firm Raggio Family Law and has been a certified Family Law specialist for 35 years. He first presented to the Texas Bar and to the Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) on use of technology in family law in 1985 and has continually been in the forefront of applying technology to law practices and trials, including making presentations about technology-assisted opening statements. He was the first lawyer in Texas to use an Ipad to present evidence in a family law case. He most recently presented on the challenges of Electronically Stored Information (ESI) in a family law case to the AAML's 2013 spring meeting, moderated the 2013 Technology Symposium at the AAML’s annual meeting, moderated the AAML’s webinar on ESI and Ethics of Technology in 2014 and presented at the State Bar’s 2012 Technology Conference and to the 2012, 2013, and 2014 Advanced Family Law Courses.

Ken combines his traditional matrimonial practice with resolutions by collaborative law divorce and by mediation when appropriate. He is known to have tremendous command of facts and figures, both in negotiations and in trials.

Ken is as vital in activities outside the courtroom and his law practice as within, winning gold medals in track events at the National Senior Olympics as well as age group wins in major stair climb races such as the Willis (Sears) Tower and the Empire State Building.

Ken practices at the firm with his two brothers, Grier and Tom, both AAML Academy fellows and with other attorneys. They strive to carry on the tradition of excellence, compassion, and professionalism exemplified by the founding members of the firm, the late Louise Raggio and Grier Raggio, Sr. Shareholder Barbara Van Duyne carries on Louise’s feminist traditions in the firm.

Ken is a Past Chair of the American Bar Family Law Section and has chaired or vice chaired several committees with the AAML. He was the producer of the first Ultimate Trial Notebook for Family Law seminar while chair of the ABA Family Law Section. He is also a Fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He has been named to D Magazine’s Best Lawyers in Dallas in 2014, and has been perennially listed in Best Lawyers in America and as a Texas SuperLawyer.
Beating the Clock
How a Dallas attorney stays fit.

IN JUST A FEW MONTHS, KEN RAGGIO WILL OFFICIALLY BECOME A SENIOR CITIZEN. But this Dallas family law attorney isn’t ready to slow down just yet. A longtime sports and fitness buff, Raggio can sprint, cycle, and climb faster than most of the younger lawyers in Texas. While some might think he is a bit obsessed with keeping in shape, Raggio thrives on winning awards in races around the country.

“I actually enjoy it,” said Raggio. “I get the buzz of competing, and I’m pretty good at it. I have to drag myself to the gym. But having goals gets me to do it. Otherwise, I’d just be a couch potato.”

Raggio’s love of sports began as a child and grew stronger when playing for the Legal Eagles, the University of Texas School of Law student football team, and running intramural track. After graduation, he helped set up the Young Lawyers Football League in Austin. Raggio eventually moved to Dallas, where he practices law at Raggio & Raggio, and played on bar league teams throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

It was through staying in shape for his current Saturday football games that Raggio rediscovered his aptitude for running. He started participating in track and field meets for seniors and has experienced considerable success in these events; in 2005, he won gold, silver, and bronze at the National Senior Games. “People regularly can do the 100, 200, and 400 because they’re sprinters,” he said. “Doing the 400, 800, and 1500 is difficult throughout any level of track—not just old guys. A reason a bronze wasn’t a silver is that I tripped and had to crawl over the line.”

Each year, Raggio typically runs in two or three 5Ks, as well as spring and summer track meets; cycles to the top of 12,000-foot passes in the Rocky Mountains (and enjoys “free wheeling” back down); and participates in three or four stair-climbing races. In the 2012 Empire State Building Run-Up, he finished the 86 flights of stairs in 15 minutes and 30 seconds, winning his division. He also took the stairs to the 103rd floor of the Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower), in which he placed second in his age group with a time of 19 minutes.

To compete in such a variety of physically demanding sports, Raggio amp up his training for about a month before an event, sometimes making time for two workouts a day.

“Your job needs to be exercising six days a week,” he said. “Because if you don’t, you’re telling your body to go into the slow decline mode. Genetically we’re supposed to be animals trotting around the savannah. And when you sit around at the desk all day, you’re just telling your body to die. That’s a tangible reason for doing what I’m doing—not a warm, fuzzy reason—but I don’t want to be one of those ‘old’ people.”

UNISAY STAFFORD MADER

**TEXAS PEOPLE**

David L. Evans
48th District Court, Fort Worth

Maria Salas-Mendoza
120th Judicial District Court, El Paso

Mike Burke
Peek and Toland, Austin

Michael R. Cooper
Michael R. Cooper, Salado

Appointed as judge for the 8th Administrative Judicial Region by Gov. Rick Perry.

Received the 2014 Texas Women Lawyers’ Pathfinder Award.

Appointed to the OneStar National Service Commission by Gov. Rick Perry.

Appointed to the Order of St. John, an Order of Chivalry of the British Crown.

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I. PREMISE

We are finding that life itself and sometimes economics are combining to allow, if not mandate, many lawyers to eschew the “gold watch” trigger of retirement. We can’t stop “birth date oriented markers” (qualifying for Medicare and Social Security), but we can influence their effect on us.

Many such lawyers embrace the “value added” to their lives by the continuance of a law practice.

But the golden years brings its own challenges, and need for vigilance.

II. THE BASE LINE SITUATION FOR PROSPECTIVE SENIOR LAWYERS

There are many different varieties of senior lawyers; even though many of us may have characteristics of each. It is worth at least looking at some basic characterizations.

A. Alpha Big Firm Lawyer

These lawyers find themselves running into the wall of mandatory retirement, but want to continue to contribute. Most large firms have mandatory retirement in the early to late 60s; some have developed an “of counsel” category for such attorneys and provide some of the accouterments of the big firm, such as staff support, telephone, etc. However, the attorney is off the partnership compensation track. Many may find that this is a good way to approach the Golden years; others find that “they love this job,” and they want to continue.

B. The “I Need to Work for the Money” Lawyer

These are the lawyers who, for mostly economic reasons like many other senior citizens, do not have the luxury to consider riding off into the sunset at 65. Sometimes a recent halving of net worth in a divorce has a profound effect on a lawyer’s view of continuing the day job.

Some lawyers need to continue to work, if only for healthcare coverage for a younger spouse.

Some lawyers may be in the terrible position, after having guaranteed Federal student loans for their children or others, finding that guarantee has become the lawyer’s nondischargeable obligation.

And there are those who have had financial reversals (besides a divorce) such as being on the very wrong side of an investment strategy (think 2007-2008), or suffering a significant casualty loss.

So work continues as a necessity.

C. The “What Else Can I Do?” Lawyer

This is commonly also the big firm lawyer. This is the lawyer whose whole existence is wrapped around the practice of law, and any personal life is peripheral to the practice.

Work is all this lawyer knows . . .

Fortunately, there are few if any in this audience who qualify for this type of classification.

D. The “I Practice Because I am a Lawyer” Lawyer

These lawyers like what they do but, more importantly, feel that they have much to contribute even after most of their days of being Clarence Darrow or Racehorse Haynes at the courthouse are over. Many choose to undertake a different, more service oriented practice in their golden years, because monetary considerations are not as strong.

E. In Actuality, Most Sixty-ish Lawyers’ Situations Are a Combination of the Previous Enumerated Types

Most lawyers at various times display characteristics of several of these basic types; the more of a combination (excepting B. above), the more likely there is potential for a more fulfilling future.

F. Hopefully One Can Quickly Transition From One Mode of Life and Practice to Another

Depending on the combination of types, the transition from “out the door right now and never look back” type to one that wants more than a zero load but less than an intensive more-than-full-time load can be accomplished with forethought and planning. It is often very difficult to look at the future hard enough to plan for more than what is on the immediate horizon.

III. THE BASICS OF PRACTICE IN THE GOLDEN YEARS

A. Mental and Physical Health

The basic premise of a successful life in the Golden Years is health and the opportunity to pursue happiness. Retirement is not going to transform a “glass is half empty” thinker to suddenly become a “glass is half full thinker.” But there are basic givens and challenges that
must be addressed.

The best expression that I have found of how to maintain health as we age is the book *Younger Next Year*. More about this later.

An expression of, or byproduct of, health is the will to get up to go to work, go to the office, or to do those things that are deemed to be necessary in every day life. One must get out of bed to accomplish these tasks.

Besides regular physical examinations by a physician, there is the need to be aware of, and even take, the available gatekeeper **Mental Acuity Test** that primary care doctors are trained to routinely give. This mental examination is a series of 30 questions asked by a physician, and the results can lead either to a “clean bill” of mental health or to a referral for a neuropsychiatric examination to be performed by a specialist.

Structure and focus added to one’s life and practice varies by the lawyer. I cannot imagine the type a big firm lawyer who’s billed 2300 hrs. a year to suddenly get great pleasure in watching daytime TV six hours a day. Sometimes structure and focus helps to make goals of more travel integrate well into a reduced practice environment. Sometimes it takes time for the lawyer to figure out the mix of work and smelling the roses in the senior years.

Unfortunately, the reality is that many seniors may have rapid changes in their physical or mental abilities and acumen. The fact that a lawyer was extremely sharp last year or two years ago is no guarantee of the present. There needs to be the structure of “check-in” with others and continued self-monitoring as an integral basic tenant of practice.

**B. A System of Support**

Practice in the golden years should be an endeavor where the lawyer not only feels that he is doing good for the client or for society, as the case may be, but also that such efforts give the lawyer significantly more pleasure than causing frustration or pain. So the senior lawyer needs to really evaluate strengths and weaknesses, and implement procedures to get the support needed to be on the positive side of such equation.

If you can’t type, you need someone working on your behalf to do so. Or become proficient with one of the dictation software tools. Or use a digital recorder and e-mail a recording out to a service and get back a word-processed document. Such a system can avoid frustration.

Adapting an existing system is better than implementing a brand new one for most lawyers. In fact, the of counsel role is probably a good fit for most, if available. But if one is adventurous, and gets the right type of qualified help — not only to set up systems confidently but to avoid the frustration and challenges of setting such a new system up — one may derive great pleasure in doing things a new way.

**C. Checks and Balances**

It is important for the senior lawyer to have a network of friends and colleagues who know the lawyer well enough to be able to indicate to that lawyer that he/she is a little off. Many times participation in a social club, charitable organization, or church may furnish some “candidates” for this unpleasant “job.” One wants to have someone who will at least suggest going and taking the previously mentioned gatekeeper examination, or pointing out an obvious decline in physical condition which may indicate excessive alcohol use or other abuses of one’s body.

The lawyer has to tell the friend, colleague, or relative that it is “OK” to candidly express their observations.

Monitoring and eliminating the things that stress you is no less important to the senior lawyer than it was to us before we became senior lawyers. But as there is the decline in capabilities, the chances for frustration become higher, and tasks may take more of an effort to accomplish.

Now that we’ve passed our “physical,” what do we need to consider for our adapted or new “day job.”

**D. The Will—And Duty to Remain Relevant and Competent**

We have the duty to remain competent in the practice of law no matter what our age. Some of the more experienced practitioners seem to rely upon their experience and judgment more so than pursuing the latest developments or even overarching trends in the law.

But courts throughout the country have reminded us that we must keep abreast of current developments; some courts have called it beneath the standard of competence to be unaware of the possible impact of social media in cases. In fact in the *Allied Concrete* case, a Virginia
lawyer was personally sanctioned $522,000 and lost his law license because of his spoliation of social media that was relevant to a case. The lawyer’s spoliation really originally started out as ignorance, and not malice, because the lawyer really didn’t understand much about Facebook.

You don’t want to be “that guy.”

IV. PHYSICAL OFFICE OPTIONS

So you’re going to be a senior lawyer. Such a designation is only by birth date – your license, skill, and desire are what really define you as a senior lawyer.

Clearly the easiest way of beginning as a senior lawyer is to continue what the lawyer was doing prior to receiving a Medicare card. Same office, same staff, same clients, same routine. If this is the case some of these other avenues for change may be delayed or never come into issue.

A. The “Rent a Cubbyhole” in an Existing Law Office

Some of us may desire a new situation, or have to find a new physical environment. An easy way is to have a place to “land” in an existing law office. Such a law office would already have phones, physical space, client areas, and staff, and may often be available at reasonable on demand rates.

Other than the big firm lawyer who becomes of counsel in the existing firm, this is probably the best way of having a physical office, as it has the look and feel of a professional law office.

B. On Demand Office Suite

Another option is for the lawyer to rent an on demand office at professional suites that have now become commonplace. The lawyer has a small monthly base charge to “reserve” an office to be used, and then pays an hourly or daily fee for actual use of an office.

This gives the lawyer somewhat less of an appearance of a professional office, compared to the previous of counsel or renting from an established law office setting, but may be far more professional and comforting to clients than meeting at the home office or Starbucks.

C. Home office

Some lawyers may have always had a home office. Some may find that this is an excellent opportunity to experience going across the hall to go to work. Clearly it depends on the physical set up and the appropriateness of such for your intended clients.

D. No Office - The Virtual Lawyer

And then there’s the office that is really no office, except what is in your bag or briefcase. “Have office in backpack – Will Travel”

A good example of this model is the fact that many mediators have their complete office in a rolling briefcase. They take it to the mediations that they perform in other lawyers offices, but have complete access to everything that they need to fulfill their tasks.

There are other “road warriors” who have different bags for their mobile office. Each bag would fit a different complement of equipment; for instance, a projector would be useful for court room or presentation, but would not ordinarily be taken to the weekend retreat office.

V. THE DATA AND INFORMATION FLOW AND RETENTION

My bias is towards retaining most info locally, as opposed to Cloud based. But that is evolving, just as the ease-of-use and security of cloud-based storage systems keeps improving. All of us are already into some cloud-based computing if we use simple products such as Gmail or many iPad apps.

The reality is that our use of cloud services will only increase in the future. But retrieval and security are ever present challenges.

A. Cell Phone - IP phone

A good rule of thumb for clients is run, don’t walk from your lawyer if that lawyer has a flip phone instead of a smart phone.

Smart phones have transformed a lawyer’s communication methods in both good and not so good ways.

A smart phone allows easy retrieval of calendar, e-mails, and documents, and with some limited computing and data manipulation functions.

Smart phones may also make it so you are never able to get away from “it,” whatever “it” is in your life.

A cell phone is the first extender of one’s physical presence, as some tools make it easy to appear to be somewhere that you’re not.
Call spoofing is the concept where an app makes it appear that your cell phone, when dialing out, has a different number than your actual cell phone. A legitimate use of this is to have your cell phone fake your office number, so that a client or other party won’t know that you are using your cell phone number, as your office number is on the recipient’s caller ID.

A more nefarious use of call spoofing would be, for example, a 911 call that looks like it is coming from a specific residence and the police or other authorities come to that residence to put out the fire or stop the violence or whatever. It is difficult to unring that bell, and difficult to prove the call spoofing.

Fast reliable service is the earmark of successful phone and data service. It is crucial for our voice communications and in most cases for our data communications. We have all experienced the key outage or interruption of service. We need to keep such occurrences to a minimum. We have continual need for access to our data.

An IP phone is a phone that operates in the Cloud. All parts, except the physical phone and its connection to the Internet, are with the phone company. An IP phone can be set up so that it works wherever it can be plugged in, and function just as if it were at its normal place. “Will travel – – Will take office phone with...”

B. The Mobile or Home Office
There are many variations on the home or mobile office. But most contain the following components: Laptop-Software-Printer-Scanner-Tablet-Apps-Phone-Internet-Cloud-Flash Drive-Digital Recorder.

Hopefully one is familiar with most of this technology at the time the Golden years come around.

More about this in appendix E article attached, “Being the Lincoln Lawyer – – Law Practice Management on the Road.”

C. Evaluate and Choose the Systems
If you choose to have the home or mobile office, without the support of some sort of office staff, you must evaluate your hands on ability to make it work. It needs to be able to function to produce your work and for your client, and also to avoid the frustration of it not working and you feel clueless and helpless to resolve the situation.

Therefore, attempt to choose the most “lawyer proof systems” that you can find so that things work, and this chance of the catastrophic error caused by ignorance is minimized. Make sure your data is backed up so that a few keystrokes or a lost or dropped phone or computer is not catastrophic.

The “best” system is one you will use, and most of the time, are already familiar with. But do not be afraid to reach out to something new and better, because the old system may soon become obsolete.

D. The Software Tools You Chose - Office 365–Adobe Acrobat Pro
The first decision to make is to continue using the tools you are familiar with. If it is Apple products continue to use them. Same for Windows products.

In the Windows world, Office 365 allows five devices to be licensed for about $130 a year with the full functionality of the Office suite. Such can be deployed on five computers, laptops, and smart phones. Similarly, Apple Apps can be used simultaneously on up to 5 devices. And there is now mini-Office that operates on Windows cell phones.

A killer app is Adobe Acrobat Pro. Combined with scanners such as the Fujitsu iX500, E filing has become an easy process, even with the requirement of filing searchable documents. Such a scanner may be all that the small office needs to become a paper-less office. Scan a document in, and terminate the original. (But have the retrieval and indexing system set up.)

E. Contract Services
When the of counsel status and or other circumstances change, use of contract services to leverage the lawyer’s abilities the comes worthy of consideration. Obvious examples of this are contract paralegals, secretaries, legal research, and even billing and accounting. Such services should be able to timely produce an acceptable work product for clients.

These contract services are very good at doing jobs that you do not like to do or not very good at doing. Such jobs tend to be avoided. Delegate and get it done.

F. I.T. Support
You would like to have your office work. Investment in IT on the front end many times prevents later disruptions in use and allows easier resolutions. Most of the time IT professionals are best for these tasks.

But sometimes your grandkid (or child) may be less
technologically challenged than you are and therefore can be the “on call” IT person for many issues that you yourself cannot solve. The younger generations seem not to be as intimidated by technology as some who are now in their golden years.

G. Cloud Practice
The trend is for lawyers (and most others) to place all their data into the cloud. It avoids the capital cost and maintenance of servers, and has the complete and redundant backup of data. And access from anywhere. The security protocols used in virtually all cloud services is more robust than what most law firms deploy on their own server.

So long as you have an Internet connection to access the Internet, you can get your data.

But a notebook computer can have huge amounts of data on it. And not be dependent on the Internet. Or cloud service. But it still needs to be backed up, either in the cloud or on physical drive.

The iPad has many apps, which are cloud-based applications. The computing power of the app occurs on the remote computer using your data inputs. Remember, the app is mining data from you the entire time.

H. The Minimum Law Practice/Office?
The future nimble senior lawyer could have an i-Phone or i-Pad be all the physical mainstays of a practice. While I would be quite hesitant to be that “lean,” the concept is intriguing.

VI. SECURITY, BACKUP, AND CONFIDENTIALITY

A. Password Protection
There are still lawyers who do not have password protection on their smart phones or iPads. There are lawyers who have passwords on sticky notes attached to their monitors. There are lawyers who maintain the same password forever, and use the same password for many, if not most of, their logins.

Such is an obvious disaster.

It is now much easier to apply passwords to specific documents. WordPerfect and Word have features to add passwords to documents; the gold standard is Adobe Acrobat Pro’s ability to apply passwords to PDFs. Applying passwords to client documents fulfills at least a modicum of your duty to protect your client’s confidentiality in their data that resides with you.

B. Password Retention and Change
The standard is to have different passwords, so that a hack of one password is not a hack into every account that one possesses.

It is not easy or fun to keep up with passwords.

One suggested way is to keep a listing of passwords in a password-protected document, and to keep the password to that document in a secure, hard-to-get-to location. (Like a safety deposit box.) In this manner, the password list can be updated with passwords as they change, or new accounts are added, but the password to open the list remains the same. So in effect the lawyer only needs to retain one password. Make sure it is a complex password – perhaps using words and spaces– but make sure that those words are outside of the lawyers easily guessed vernacular.

Also, be sure to close the password document if it is your habit to leave your computer on when it is unattended or overnight for remote access to e-mail etc.

There are products — 1Password for the iPhone is a good example — that keep track of all your passwords in a secure environment, requiring you to remember only the one password to access all your accounts.

C. Password Protection
Banks and brokerages have two-stage protection for their financial documents for customers. All of us are aware of the millions of accounts that are regularly hacked.

It is our duty to ensure that our data, including that on the cloud are protected. So protect the data with the passwords and protect the passwords in a secure way.

D. Health & Awareness: Can’t Leave Your Data or Emails in an Unprotected State
Absent mindedly leaving your computer on or losing your cell phone can have obvious disastrous results, which may be equally catastrophic as a meltdown of data without a backup.

It is part of our job description at any age to be aware of our surroundings and not inadvertently expose our personal or client data to theft.

Have your IT people put “find my phone” or “lock
my computer” software on your appropriate devices so that your negligence in losing a device – – or someone’s active theft of a device – – does not operate to your or your client’s peril.

Also, “log off” or “log out” when you leave your computer for a little while. This increases security, and doesn’t slow you down when you start again.

Protecting your client’s data also means taking reasonable steps to insure the trustworthiness of both staff and outside contractors and providers. Most offices require a signed confidentiality agreement for all staff and contractors.

VII. HEALTH - NIMBleness

Even a technologically nimble lawyer who is legally nimble must also be mentally and physically nimble.

A. Younger Next Year Premises

The book Younger Next Year was published in late 2004. I saw the authors on the Today show in early 2005. Their premise was that if a person took certain simple steps, instead of there being a continual slow decline as we age, life could go on at a very high physical and mental level, and then one fell off the cliff. (Graphs representing these premises follow the book cover in the Appendix.)

I think that is the end result that all of us wish to have. A quality, fulfilling, and productive life and then to go out quickly. And without the usual massive transfer of assets (either personal or government) to the medical – hospital complex that spends half of our nation’s healthcare dollars in the last six months of life. And with such efforts doing little or nothing to contribute to a better quality of life for the patient.

Get the book. It is available for $10 or less on Amazon.

A few of the premises of the book include:

1. Your job is to exercise 6 days a week (two days of which are weight training) for the rest of your life.

2. Aerobic exercise ensures a long life; the weight training insures a life worth living.

3. Eat well (healthy) and drink little.

4. Care and Commit

I have told many about the book. I have had over two scores of lawyers report to me that the book made a significant difference in their outlook and their lives.

I am one of those. I used the book as the road map for my training for an upcoming national Senior Olympics in the summer of 2005. Due to improved understanding of training, strength training, nutrition, and other factors that were put together for me in the book, I was able to win three medals in track events at that year’s Nationals.

B. Recognizing the Need to Stop

The need to stop may be made known to us by a cataclysmic physical event, or by developing a new ability to smell the roses.

Or it may be an”intervention”by those who know us and care for us. Or by the market.

We all can hope that we will be open, realistic, and receptive when the time comes.

VIII. GOALS

A. My History

My father, Grier Raggio, was an attorney when he met my mother. After World War II, my parents and older brother Grier moved to Dallas, and brother Tom was soon born. Mother Louise Raggio started law school, which was interrupted by my birth. She completed law school when I was two years old.

I used to go on her bicycle to law school as an infant; there are those who say I learned as much the first time in law school as I did the second time.

My parents formed Raggio and Raggio in 1956. Louise, for her work spearheading the task force for the State Bar of Texas that led to the passage of the Marital Property Act of 1967, was proclaimed “the Mother of Family Law in Texas.”

Brother Tom joined the firm after graduation from SMU, and I joined the firm in 1977 after practicing in Austin and then taking an extended trip around the world. Brother Grier shut down his successful New York family law practice and moved to Dallas in 1994 to work full-time for the firm.

My father came to the office on his 75th birthday, as
was his pattern, and died a couple months later.

My mother continued her extensive bar and women’s rights activities and practiced into her late 80s, and died at 91, three years ago.

I have been very active in bar activities, chairing local and national organizations, and participating in moving the law forward (lobbying). I also have been physically active, sometimes even playing flag football among other activities. “Have Medicare Card – Will Catch Passes”

So a normal simple, non-law office retirement plan doesn’t seem to be very much in my genes.

Despite having a long time vision of the future, life can blindside you. The death of my son and law partner Jeff Raggio earlier this year has caused me to reevaluate my future.

B. Joe Geary

I was fortunate to meet Joe Geary as a young lawyer, working on cases with my mother. I recognized the mutual respect that they had for one another. I also appreciated how Mr. Geary treated me as a peer.

And now Joe Gary continues to practice at age 90, still going to court, still having a good time, still contributing to society, still helping clients, and having time for family, for golf, and to winter in a warm place.

A pretty good model to which we can aspire.

C. Important Milestones & Checks

The best of us already have had a system and pattern of evaluation and self-evaluation of where we are and where we are going.

The rest of us need to take the time now so we have an accurate assessment of where we are and where we would like to go. For the law practice, it could be a professional coach; for our personal lives it could be a counselor or other mentor.

We need to actively evaluate, and periodically reevaluate. Our “long-range plan” horizon keeps getting shorter and shorter...

IX. CONTENTMENT

A. Working at Whatever Level and Wherever

Whether to have something to do, to help mankind, or to keep yourself out of the soup line, such should have the result of contributing to your quest for peace and contentment.

If you hate this job and can afford to stop doing it, do so. But find another job in addition to your Younger Next Year job. It does not have to be a law job unless that works for you.

Mindfulness may be a part of your new package.

B. Relationships

1. Care & Connect

The range of lawyers goes from a lone wolf whose only reason to live is the solitary law practice, all the way to one with a close multi-generational family with many outside activities and strong faith and friends.

The more connections we have, the better the chance for a healthy and fulfilling life.

2. Balance

Haven’t we always heard that well-rounded (not meaning waistline) people do best and are happiest? Can’t we all strive for such a balanced life?

3. The addition of people who know you can help you self monitor your cognition

X. CONCLUSION

At age 65, actuarially white men have 17.7 years and white women 20.3 years to live. Black men have less; Hispanic women have more.

How you choose to utilize the first part of that is your decision with major parts played by your genes, your family, your circumstances, and your clients.

Hopefully, you will have a very long first part and short closing.

XI. APPENDIX

A. The Mobile Office

B. Younger Next Year Covers

C. Health graphs

D. Joe Geary article from Dallas Morning News

E. Article, “Being the ‘Lincoln Lawyer’—Law Practice Management on the Road”
At 90, WWII hero, attorney still going strong

ADDISON — August has been busy for Joe Geary.

The founder of Geary, Porter & Donovan PC went before a jury in Denton County and won $309,000 for his client in a state property condemnation case.

He resolved a dispute involving a legal immigrant ranchhand and a high-interest loan company. For that case, Geary waived his $480-an-hour fee because he felt the terms of the loan were “morally unconscionable.”

And he’s knee-deep in depositions on another case that’s headed for trial later this year.

The thing is, Geary is 90 years old. He’s been practicing law in North Texas since he passed the bar 67 years ago.

“Work is the nearest thing to competitive

See WAR Page 5D
Being the “Lincoln Lawyer” - Law Practice Management on the Road

Kenneth G. Raggio
Raggio & Raggio, PLLC
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Dallas, Texas 75204
Kenneth G. Raggio is a shareholder in Dallas’ Raggio & Raggio, PLLC, founded in 1956 by his parents, Grier Raggio and the legendary Louise B. Raggio. He practices with his two brothers and others, including Jeff Raggio a third generation Raggio.

Certified specialist in family law, Raggio has been selected for years for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America and as a Texas Super Lawyer. He makes presentations to state and national CLE organizations, including Texas Advanced Family Law Course, the national conferences of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, the AICPA-AAML conference on divorce, and national CLE conferences held annually in Colorado.

As a member and representative of the Texas Family Law Foundation, Raggio has testified before House and Sentate committees of the Texas Legislature. He also participates in review of bills affecting Family Law that are filled in a Legislative session.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Officer, Council Member, or Committee Chair, ABA Family Law Section, 1976-1999.


Author and lecturer to national groups 1980-present (ABA, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants AIPCA, state AAML chapters, Law Education Institute, The Matrimonial Strategist, the National CLE Conference, Matthew-Bender, and Bancroft-Whitney. Also to State Bars of Georgia and Oklahoma)


Fellow, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

Fellow, American Bar Foundation.

Author and lecturer to Australia Fifth Biennial National Family Law Conference.
Recipient, CiCi Simon Memorial Award, Children's Rights Council.

Advisor to American Law Institute's Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution Project, 1990-publication 2001, which is arguably the most sweeping proposal for family law reform attempted in the U.S. over the last quarter century.

Member, ABA Special Committee on Project 2000 from 1992-1999.

Moderator, National Conclave on Alimony, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Texas Bar Foundation, and other groups, Austin, Texas, 1987.


**TEXAS ACTIVITIES**

Listed as one of *Texas Best Lawyers*.

Board Certified in Family Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Author and lecturer to State Bar of Texas Advanced Family Law Courses on subjects such as Computers, Evidence, Characterization, Tracing, Valuation, and Courtroom Presentations, 1980-2011.

Member, Texas Family Law Foundation, and volunteer lobbyist and bill reviewer.


Author, teacher, and participant in numerous presentations on substantive law and also on computer utilization to several Bar Associations, SMU legal assistant classes, Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, Law Seminars, Inc., etc.

Life Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation.

Past President of the Dallas Bar Family Law Section.

Past Chair of various Dallas Bar Association Committees 1977-present, Communications and Technology Committee, Media Relations Committee, Bar Activities Committee, and Media-Law Seminar.

Featured or quoted in articles or stories on WFAA-TV, KTVT-TV, KRLD radio, The Dallas Morning News, Park Cities News, among others.

Council Member, State Bar of Texas Computer Section, 1997-2000.
Member, Texas Family Law Foundation

Life Fellow, Dallas Bar Foundation


OTHER VITAE

NB: This Ken Raggio is NOT the www.Kenraggio.com one who is a preacher and prognosticator of religious issues. My articles and prophesies are strictly legal related.

Manager in the Family Law specialty firm of Law Offices of RAGGIO & RAGGIO, P.L.L.C., founded in 1956, practicing with his two brothers, son Jeff Raggio, and other attorneys.

Licensed Master Plumber, Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners, inactive. (hey, it was a summer job in college). Eagle Scout. USAF Reserve 1970-76.

BA, University of Texas, Austin.

JD, University of Texas, Austin.

Flyfisherman (sic) and Road Warrior.

Certified Mediator for Family Law Problems by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

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Nimbleness: Managing Your Life and Law Practice in the Golden Years

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XII. When Truly Out of the Office/”Staycation”
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I. Premise

The premise of the Lincoln Lawyer is that the Lincoln Lawyer has a mobile office. The lawyer has no real home office. Many of the concepts have been explored in greater detail in other presentations both today and tomorrow. All of us may be aware of the movie the Lincoln Lawyer featured a criminal law practice where Matthew McConaughey portrayed Mickey Haller. There are significant differences between a family law practice in the criminal law practice that present challenges to becoming a Family Law Lincoln Lawyer.

II. The Challenges

A. Need for Face-to-Face Meetings

While it is not unprecedented for an attorney to never meet the client in a family law case - especially a case where the client is out-of-state or a least far away from the practice area of the attorney - the standard is for a client to physically meet with an attorney so that each can decide whether the representation will go forward and on what terms. Observing whether a prospective client’s eyes dilate when they describe the latest transgression of their spouse may give one an important indicator as to the level of issues and difficulty in the case and whether I want to undertake representation of that client. Some of the technologies explained below will describe reasonable substitutes for face-to-face meetings that used to be held in the office.

B. Need for Paper in a “Paper-less Environment”

As other speakers including Ross Kodner have indicated, the achieving of a “paperless” office in a family law practice is illusory. “Paper-less” is the reality. We have our exhibits for trial; we have the courts rulings; we have discovery to process and serve; and many other paper-based procedures. The reality, however, is that we already operate with much less physical paper than we used to. The courts in certain counties do not possess a physical file anymore. Some of the solutions discussed will help us get to the desired level of comfort of a paper-less office.

C. Confidentiality and Security

The movie shows us how Mickey Haller dealt with one specie of confidentiality. The confidentiality challenges to the Lincoln Lawyer are greater because there is no “home base” where the majority of client contact, and therefore confidential information, is imparted. Talking on the cell phone in the courthouse or at Starbucks is not exactly guaranteed to be private.

D. Security

Security of client materials, work product, and even physical devices are more of a challenge when there is not the physical office where everything is locked up daily. If one is a mobile lawyer with the entire case file on an iPad or laptop computer, think how the theft of that device would be catastrophic. Even Fortune 500 companies and government agencies have had notebook computers stolen that contained millions of account numbers or other sensitive data has been compromised due to the theft of a single computer. These entities expend lots of resources on data security. The greater the concentration of a practice to mobile devices means a greater risk of a compromise in security.

E. Information Storage and Retrieval

Thankfully there are many solutions for information storage and retrieval that are available to all of us to help streamline our practices and make us more efficient, and are not limited only to the Lincoln Lawyer. Huge computer hard drives, the ubiquitousness of PDF file format, cloud storage, e-mail, wireless technologies, and internet-based services have transformed the family lawyer’s manner of producing work product.

F. The Bar Requires Physical Address

The bar requires us to have a physical address for service under TRCP Rule 21a. We want to have a physical address, anyway, where our clients can send
our checks if they are still “old-school.” Even the Lincoln Lawyer had a physical address where he slept at night and that can be the physical address required by the bar.

G. Staff

Staffing, obviously, is very important to any lawyer. Whether support functions are distributed to working at home - like Mickey Haller’s assistant - or at an office needs to be addressed.

III. The Mobile Office

A. Where Do You Transact Your Business?

As shown in the movie clips, the Lincoln Lawyer fully practiced in the backseat of his Lincoln as he is being driven from courthouse to courthouse, either for trials or to meet with clients who are incarcerated. Hopefully in our family law cases, we are not traveling to the courthouse to meet with our jailed clients very often, and can choose the time and place of our meetings. The family law practice does need a physical office for initial client conferences, to prepare for hearings, to go through discovery to be produced or discovery that has been produced, for depositions, for preparation for trial, and for storage if nothing else. But it does not have to be grand or even a traditional office.

B. Technology Can Supplant Physical Space

Technology has allowed us partial or complete solutions to many issues that we face as family lawyers or strive to become paper-less. All of us have been to the courthouse where there’s been a case with boxes all over the court room, which is the old-school way of having access to information. The trend is towards having a computer set up with a printer in court so that needed documents can be produced on the spot. These can be similar efficiencies with physical space required in the office environment.

IV. The Paper Work

A. Family Law Demands That Some Paper Is Not Replaceable

In a case where a restraining order or other quick relief is requested, it may take hours, if not a day, for the filed pleading to be processed and to be ready for a judge’s signature on the TRO or other request for relief. Social studies and psychological evaluations are generally required to be physically filed in the court file, even if segregated from general view. In some cases, an inventory may be required to be filed. The Motion to Compel and discovery response documents when there is a discovery issue. Budgets. Documentary proof of net resources. Bank statements and tax returns. The summary spreadsheet calculating the net estate and proposed divisions of that estate.

All of these are documents that have traditionally been produced and possessed in traditional written form.

B. But Some Can Be Modernized

When moving to the discovery phase of a case, a lawyer’s best friend is a scanner, e-mail, and Adobe Acrobat Pro. A scanner allows any physical copies of documents to be scanned into electronic for. One can request, and usually receive, from a client’s record providers, electronic copies of documents already in PDF form. Adobe Acrobat Pro allows Bates-numbers to be placed on each page of a production so that they can be indexed, and marked for later and hopefully very quick retrieval.

All of these procedures can be replicated to a significant degree and in various aspects of the mobile office.

C. Retrieval

When we go to court with a paper file, we to retrieve the documents that are in hand in that file. We have our exhibits with the requisite number of copies of each premarked and ready to go to save ourselves and the court’s time. The larger the case, the harder it becomes to take hard copies of the entire file to court.
One can have a notebook computer loaded with the entire case file but then the issue becomes an issue of retrieval. Some may love to have all their documents into a database that can be keyword-searched; others organize the file with an Excel or word processor-based index that refers to the specific Bates stamp page or pages of a document. When the need for a particular document arises, a scan of the index identifies the document and then that particular document can be printed out.

D. Storage

The notebook computer mentioned in the previous paragraph may not only have all the documents, pleadings, notes, documents, and all other materials of a particular case, but may have similar materials for all of the lawyers’ case files. So storage of those materials is not an issue. The issue in many cases is the source documents – physical copies – from which the electronic records on the computer were generated as we all aware, lawyers are under the “discovery retention rule” after the end of a case unless such requirement is terminated by the final order of the court. In family law, the elimination of discovery retention has become the standard.

There is a requirement to retain the client’s “file” for either a statutory period or for the period set out in your contract with the client. It would be much easier if there is no or very little physical storage required.

V. Communications

The ability to communicate in the past several years demonstrates none of us could practice – or live – the way that we do without our cell phones and e-mail. Smart phones have become an almost complete extension of the wireless office and is used for calendaring, contacts, management, emails, texting, as well as for voice calls. E-mails have become a preferred method of communication and of transmittal of documents in a very short period of time although still ot “approved” by the Rule of Procedure. We now have outreach to clients, potential clients and others through our websites and through newsletters and other communications sent through services such as Constant Contact.

VI. Confidentiality

As shown in the movie clip, Mickey Haller has an easy way of dealing with one level of confidentiality. But the reality of confidentiality is much greater than that portrayed in the movie. Not only does the lawyer have to take steps to reasonably secure the physical portions of our client file, including those held on the lawyer’s computers, the lawyer must have diligent procedures covering the transmittal of such materials to the client or to third parties. We can assume by dropping a letter in the mail that it will arrive confidentially to the intended recipient; that’s the law. But we cannot assume the same protections in fact for e-mails or documents transmitted over the web.

VII. Security

A. Physical Security for Phones and Computers

The first level of physical security is possession of the computer or phone. The second level of security is to have access to contents on those machines password-protected. The third level of protection is to have the ability to remotely destroy the data on stolen devices using applications such as Find My iPad.

B. Storage of Documents and Data

There is a plethora of available options to be able to store anything in the Lincoln Lawyer’s (and family law attorney’s) practices. Some of the solutions are the traditional filing of the hard copy documents. Some are new such as the expansion of Cloud-based storage.

C. Cloud-Based Storage of Documents

This is a technology that is mostly grown up in the past few years. There are now services such as Dropbox that allow huge amounts of data to be kept by the provider in a location somewhere else other than in
your computer or your own computer server. Many of the confidentiality issues of such Cloud computing have been initially addressed by State Bars who have given de facto approval to posting confidential client material in Cloud storage solutions.

Dropbox allows you to upload and to download documents as you wish. Dropbox syncs documents that reside on the various machines linked to the Dropbox account. For instance, you can be in court, find that you have forgotten an important document or set of documents, and have your paralegal put it in to the Dropbox (or email it to you) and then you can produce the document as you need there on the spot (you can also find out the court’s fax number and have a document faxed to you, and depend on the court staff to bring it to you).

Email services like Gmail, Yahoo, and others are “Cloud-based,” as the content of the emails remains in Google’s or Yahoo’s servers.

Clearly Cloud storage has the provider’s protections from hacking but is still subject to attacking by hackers. But there is no real option. A burglar can break into your physical office, too, and take the documents,

VIII. The Solutions

A. Cloud Storage

The promise of Cloud-based is essentially unlimited storage. On the positive side, a lawyer can keep all of the case files in the cloud, with some full-time entity responsible for keeping it safe and backed up. The concept is really “server in the sky” where the cloud computing provider furnishes the use of a file server to the lawyer’s practice need.

B. Cloud-Based Software

Cloud-based software has the “brains” of the software on the remote Cloud server and only a front-end link on the lawyer’s device. Examples include the fact that many iPad apps are virtually worthless unless they can connect to the Internet, where they go to the app providers website and which does the heavy computing. Examples include Wolfram’s Lawyers Professional Assistant, and most of the research applications such as Texas Legal Fast Case, and Law Box. Google’s CR48 “Chromebook” computer is based upon the premise that all the heavy computing will be done on Google servers; all that a user needs is connection to those servers to use it.

D. Wireless Mobile Office

The wireless mobile office and is more than just a cell phone. It is the connectivity of the iPad or the notebook computer with the Cloud data with the ability to wirelessly replicate and produce those documents at the local physical level.

IX. The Tools and Toys

As with all systems, there is a certain amount of hardware that must be deployed to make any particular system work. But the Lincoln lawyer has a lot more at his disposal now – tools that are well integrated and also have significant ease-of-use. The following list is suggestive of many part of the solution that will work for many Lincoln and family law lawyers.

A. Cell Phone

If you do not have a smartphone, get one. It has become indispensable. If possible, get one that can double as a WiFi hotspot. Certain phones now have this ability.

B. VoIP Phone - In Your Remote Office

The VoIP (voice over internet protocol) phone is a relatively new entry in into the possibilities for the Lincoln lawyer.

An VoIP phone plugs in to an Internet jack connection and then that phone is recognized just as is the phone was at the desk in the office from whence it came. Stated differently an IP phone is cloud telephone, and where the phone connects to the phone service
provider which sorts out exactly how to fulfill the communication the phone-user desires.

Example: let’s say that you’re in a two-lawyer three-staff office and have two extra phones, for a total of seven phones. All seven phones are connected by phone cables to a central box in the office (called a private branch exchange) and that box is connected by telephone wires to the phone company. An IP phone, by contrast, plugs into the internet jack (where the computer was plugged in) and then the phone connects to the lawyer’s internet switch, and the signal goes to the cable or phone company to the internet and then to the IP phone company. Voicemail, intercom and phone lines work just as if it is a regular ATT (or Samsung or Nortel) phone system.

If a lawyer wishes to work from home, but needs to be fully hooked up to the office, all the lawyer has to do is take the IP phone home, plug it into the Internet at the lawyer’s house, and, for all appearances and for most purposes, it is the same as sitting at the lawyer’s desk.

The IP phone opens up entirely new possibilities for remote “office-ing.”

C. Fax Solutions

The stand-alone fax machine will soon disappear from most offices. Many fax solutions now receive the transmitted fax and then convert it to a PDF, notify the recipient by e-mail and then deliver the fax as directed in response to the e-mail. Faxes may be sent out in a similar way, with the proof of service and with PDF documents stored for the proof of service.

D. iPads and Apps

Apple has sold hundreds of millions of iPads. There are hundreds of thousands of applications and there are hundreds of legal apps, or apps that are applicable to or useful in the lawyer’s practice. Other speakers will go more into detail of some of the use killer apps, but an iPad and apps (like TrialPad) are very likely to be an integral part of any family law attorneys mobile office.

E. Other Tablet Computers

Then there are the Android tablets. While they are later to the market than the iPads, don’t be surprised if Android devices overtake iPads within the next few years, just as sales of Android phones have surpassed the iPhones significantly in the last year (it’s the basic difference between an open architecture and highly regulated ecosystems that Apple insists upon using).

F. Windows Notebooks/Windows 8

A perceived problem with the Apple ecosystem is the rigid insistence of Cloud storage and adherence to certain protocols, and a narrow band of compatible equipment. Windows, however, allows the free use of USB drives, SD cards, accessory harddrives, and a large universe of peripherals helping to continue Windows as a viable and necessary tool. The Microsoft Office suite is ubiquitous and dominates the computer world. We need it now.

Windows 8 with its touchscreen capabilities added to full service Windows computers promises to be a strong competitor to the iPad, if for no other reason that so much of the business world is committed to the Windows software model. By the time of the second family law technology conference, we should have a pretty good idea of how much the Microsoft Surface tablet computer is making inroads into the iPad and other tablet market.

G. Printing: AirPrint, Google CloudPrint

If you have your documents in the Cloud, or even have them on the hard drive or memory of your iPad or notebook computer, at some point you’re going to need to print some of those documents. The holy grail here is to be able to print wirelessly from your iPad or computer to your printer.

There are two major protocols to do this: Apple’s AirPrint, and Google’s CloudPrint. These are the printer manufacturer’s protocols that work fine but are not as universal.
The printer market is booming. Just a couple years ago there were only a handful of AirPrint compatible printers. Now there has been huge market growth, and printers that cost less than $100 that are both AirPrint or Google CloudPrint capable are common.

AirPrint means that you can print wirelessly from your iPad to that printer.

Google CloudPrint works a little differently. If the Google CloudPrint printer is connected to the Internet, anyone who has access rights to that printer can print from anywhere in the world.

H. Wireless Display - AppleTV for iPads

Sometimes in court and many times in settlement conferences or mediations, we need to display documents or calculations. Until recently, this would require looking into a small notebook screen – or even a smaller iPad screen – or having a gaggle of wires connected to a larger monitor or a big screen TV.

Now computers and iPad can seamlessly and wirelessly display content to big-screen TVs or projectors. This is by the use of AppleTV which is a simple converter box that is plugged into a big screen TV. It is easily found by an iPad and therefore the iPad will wirelessly display to the big screen.

I. Wireless Display – Intel WiDi for Notebooks

Intel WiDi – wireless display capability – is installed in all of Intel’s Icore third-generation mobile processors and most second-generation processors. Some big-screen TVs also now have WiDi built into them, such as certain LG and Samsung models.

WiDi allows wireless communication directly from the notebook computer to a big screen TV. I have been playing a DVD in the upstairs portion of my offices and it was being wirelessly displayed on the big screen downstairs in another part the office.

There is nothing wrong with wired connections to display devices; it is simply more elegant in settlement conferences, mediations, and in court to not have all of the wires distracting from the actual presentation being made. As well as allowing the freedom to move around with our iPad.

J. Teleconference-Cisco WebEx, Skype

Telephone conferencing will become much more common as the cost is near zero. Skype is currently used by our clients in many of our long-distance child possession cases. Teleconferencing is now being used by us to combine the sight and sound the may give a totally different but truer impression of the transacting business than mere voice alone.

A demo of use of teleconferencing is as follows: the deposition of an expert is being taken in California. The deposition is being televised via teleconference and the televised images are transmitted to a rebuttal expert and lawyers in Texas. The transcript of the court reporter is streaming to all. The exhibits that are being shown to the witness are also being shown to the observers in Texas who can hear and see everything going on. Questions can be suggested via email or by an iPad app to the questioner by those participating remotely.

X. The Cloud

The importance of having data and services at your immediate use cannot be overemphasized.

A. Storage

We all use Cloud-based storage now - think Gmail or Yahoo e-mail. The big three Cloud repositories are Dropbox, Sugar Sync and Box. The Cloud saves the expense of real servers for storage.

B. Web-Based Case Management

Web-based case management includes Salesforce, RocketMatter, MyCase, HoudiniEsq, and Clio as the leaders. Each is far cheaper than Time Matters, Amicus or the other traditional computer-in-
Being the “Lincoln Lawyer” - Law Practice Management on the Road

your-office systems. The web-based systems seem to be more portable between competing vendors than the “hardwired” traditional practice managers.

Such Cloud-based systems are becoming more of the norm than the exception to the norm. Previously, the lawyer would buy multiuser license for, say eight TabsIII, as practice management software. There is the cost of the software, the training not to mention all the in-house computer server issues. And then, of course, there are always the continual updates required for a fee.

The Cloud-based office management’s leaders all have lower front-loaded cost - just a monthly fee per user to use the software. The software providers are full-time professionals doing tweaks in the software in response to needs of their user base. The functionality to price ratio for these cloud-based services is very good. Functions such as timekeeping, accounting, calendaring, document assembly, and e-mail, and other functions are easily integrated within a cloud management system. This eliminates one more obstacle for the Lincoln Lawyer.

There are law firms that are tightly integrated into Cloud-based web management. A demo of use is described by Lee Rosen of North Carolina as said in the Nov-Dec 2012 issue of Law Practice (ABA LPM):

“Our...transition [to Cloud storage and computing] went so smoothly that we moved everything else to the cloud as well. We once had eight servers lining the racks in our building. Now we have none. We moved our email and calendar, document assembly, phone system and accounting to the cloud, and its all working like a charm. Our costs are down, our systems are up, and we’re focusing on practicing law rather than on computer issues.

“Our typical users log in first thing in the morning, working from anywhere with an internet connection, and have full access to all of their client data, documents and tools for communication. Their mobile devices give the access to everything they need to serve their clients entirely from the cloud.”

C. Cloud/IP Phone System

The Cloud-based phone systems or IP phones have a flexibility unmatched by traditional phone services or even at some levels by cell phones. Yes, an IP phone has to be plugged in to the Internet. But once it’s plugged in a broadband internet connection anywhere, it can act as the office phone, the home phone, everything.

XI. Balance of Privacy, Practice, and Personal Life

All tools mentioned here and those described in the appendices, as well as in other speakers’ presentations, clearly demonstrate that you can be accessible 24/7 to your clients if that is your business model or choice. Others would say that these type of tools should be limited to regular hours: “we answer the phones only when the courts are open because that is the only time we can guarantee you that you can get the help you need.”

Each lawyer and law firm must choose where it wishes to place itself on the continuum of client accessibility and privacy.

XII. When truly out of the Office/ “Staycation”

A. Lawyer’s Creed Letter

The Lawyer’s Creed letter is the best initial protector of time out of office as it prevents unwanted hearings while out of town.

B. How to Handle the Mail/Faxes

Just because one is on vacation, or a “staycation” (where one is out of the office for a month or two), it is not reasonable to expect that life for others affected by the Lincoln Lawyer’s practice to just go into a holding pattern. In active cases, it is reasonable for discovery in written forms to go forward. If a sole practitioner without a staff were the Lincoln Lawyer, arrangements would have to be made for picking up the certified mail and faxes and mail, and backup for
C. **The Staycation Office**

The Lincoln Lawyer could set up a staycation office: IP phone, the notebook, iPad and wireless printer that will scan to PDF’s. Work a little and vacation a little for a long time.

D. **OR...**

Or get to a place where there is no IP phone, no cell phone, no fax, no e-mail, no mail, no noise...
Cloud Phone Systems

Virtual Servers

Dropbox

SugarSync

box

Web-Based Case Management

MyCase

clio

Practice Management Simplified

Nimbleness: Managing Your Life and Law Practice in the Golden Years

Chapter 4

Cloud Phone Systems

1-800-YOURBIZ

RingCentral

YOUR PHONE SYSTEM, EVERYWHERE