EST. 1979

Knowles & Randolph, P.A.

40+

YEARS OF EXCELLENCE A LIFETIME OF COMMITMENT

PROBATE

WILLS **TRUSTS ESTATE PLANNING**

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A LIFE CHANGING EVENT?

PERSONAL INJURY STEPS YOU SHOULD TAKE AFTER BEING INVOLVED

IN AN ACCIDENT



CONSEQUENCES OF DYING WITHOUT A WILL

Volume 1.





"It's not just about making money, It's about serving those who come in here."



The KNOWLES& RANDOLPH Story



By Jason Johnson Chief Operating Officer

Thirty some odd years ago, two juggernauts decided to combine their talents and form what today is the oldest African-American Law Firm in North Florida. How? Well that's why I'm here.

I have the pleasure of sharing the captivating story of Harold M. Knowles and Roosevelt Randolph.

Shortly after realizing his disdain for math and science, Tallahassee native, Harold M. Knowles would substitute his desire to become a dentist with undergraduate and law degrees from Florida State University. Raised by an educator and a businessman. Mr. Knowles says quite frankly, "I got my work ethic from my mom and my thirst for business from my dad." Just over 600 miles away in rural La Grange North Carolina, Roosevelt Randolph would leave home and travel to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he would araduate with a dual degree in mathematics and political science. "My goal graduating college was to work for IBM, says Mr. Randolph (with a great big grin on his face). Unfortunately, or maybe fortunately IBM didn't come knocking." With a slight nudge from the Uncle of his wife of 45 years, Randolph entered into a Summer Law program at the University of Florida where he met a few Florida State Professors and decided that he'd forego computers and undertake law.

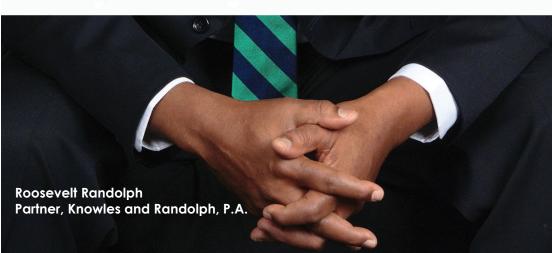
Knowles and Randolph made their first connection in Law School. Mr. Knowles recalls, "Randolph came to FSU with a group of guys from UNC Chapel Hill and there was one common thread among all of them...they were really smart!" The more

I began to delve into the history of Harold M. Knowles and Roosevelt Randolph, I noticed a genuine admiration between the two. After graduating law school, both Knowles and Randolph made the decision to stay in Tallahassee. Knowles went to the Attorney General's office and Randolph to the State Attorney's office. Over the next few years they would achieve important milestones and move closer to forging their dynamic partnership.

In 1979, Knowles, Randolph and one other partner joined forces to engage in private practice. Over the years a few partners would come and ao, to date, two remain. Knowles and Randolph. When asked about Mr. Knowles' greatest attribute, Mr. Randolph says, "He is a sharp businessman and an even greater manager. Harold is good at solving problems. If there is a problem, he will come up with a plan for the solution. It's not by happenstance that he's our Managing Partner." When asked the same question, Mr. referenced Mr. Randolph's Knowles intelligence. "I mean this guy was a double major in college, not to mention he's a darn good trial Lawver. The auv is simply brilliant."



"When people walk through our door, they're not just a number."









Tallahassee

Tampa

Miami

Preceding the DNA era, this case was very challenging. The FAMU student was ultimately convicted, but I didn't stop there. I ended up appealing the case and with the help of experts, the Judge ended up overturning the conviction!" I can see the light in his eyes while sharing this story. He truly finds pleasure in helping people. He also found pride in knowing that the student was able to move on and live a very productive life. When asked about his most memorable experience practicing law, Mr. Knowles had too many to pin point, but did reference how proud he was to open his own law practice after leaving state government. He reflects, "I always knew I wanted to live in Tallahassee. practice law and have my own law firm." Boy did he fulfill that dream. Over the years Mr. Knowles has been able to utilize his practical side to impact hundreds of families through probate law. "The thing I love most about Probate is that there is a beginning, middle, and end. It's very orderly and I like order." Not only does he serve families via probate law, but he's also made use of his passion for business to partner with his church to develop a small community called Carolina Oaks to provide homeownership for 25 heads of household. "Home ownership is still the American dream, I pride myself in knowing that we provided a path of ownership to those who would have otherwise been living in apartments."

It's no secret that these men have had a tremendous impact on the Tallahassee community and the North Florida region. Today, in 2017, both When asked about his most memorable experience practicing law, Mr. Randolph referenced one case in particular. Shortly after leaving the State Attorney's office (where he was the first African-American to work in that office), he began his work as a Defense Attorney. He speaks poignantly, "There was an African-American male Student from FAMU who was accused of sexual assault

against a female student at TCC.

Knowles and Randolph have taken their wealth of experience and continued to evolve. Mr. Randolph is now leading a team of lawyers in helping clients who are involved in incidences personal Injury and Medical malpractice. Mr. Knowles is continuina to serve clients in probate matters at the same time taking on new entrepreneurial endeavors. Knowles Randolph are truly inspirational. When asked what experience a Knowles and Randolph client should have they both had similar, but different responses. Mr. Knowles said, "I want clients to come here and feel like they have been well served by someone who was competent enough to handle their issue." Mr. Randolph said, "It begins before they walk through the door. When they enter our office. I want them to have full confidence that we will do everything we can to fight for their rights. I enjoy working on behalf of an individual, many times against a corporate entity and seeing the little guy win. David against Goliath." The aforementioned perspectives are client centric and results driven. These men have not only built good careers as Lawyers, but even greater legacies as humanitarians. When asked to sum up the Knowles and Randolph Company and leadership, Attorney Clayton Knowles, the son of Harold M. Knowles summed it up best, "At Knowles and Randolph, we're not just a Firm for law, we're a Firm for life.



of dying without a will

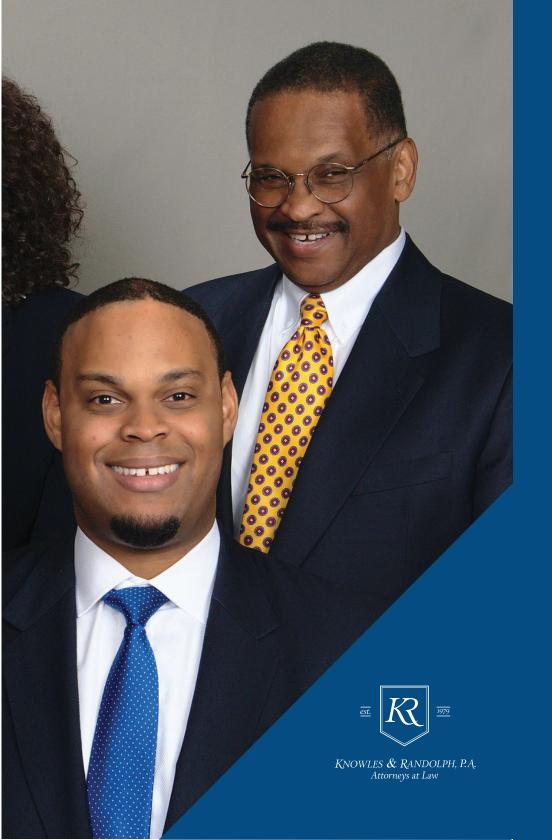
Death is one of life's most difficult challenges. Although it is certain that one day we will all take this journey, most people fail to prepare for the trip.

Historically, we focus solely on the spiritual world and not on the impact that our passing may have on the people, places and things that we have left behind in the physical world. More often than not, an instance of death can bring about quarreling, massive amounts of debt and absolute chaos. Surely the death happened, but what happens afterwards? Who gets what and how much? What should happen to the car or the house? What about Mom and Dad's savings account? What now? Surely there are answers to each of these questions, but how can one answer them when their loved one is no longer along for the ride? The answer is...they can't.

The phrase "dead people can't talk" is a bit harsh, but true nonetheless. The only way to speak from your grave is by establishing a course of action (WHILE YOU'RE ALIVE) that is explicit enough to leave zero room for misinterpretation. What if your death was a gift instead of a curse? Surely, it would be devastating to lose you, but even more disturbing to have to argue with family and friends about material possessions while grieving at the same time. That would really hurt! The only way for you to cut down on confusion and bring about clarity in a moment of despair is to draw up a will. Don't make yourself susceptible to the consequences of dying without a will.

Clayton Knowles Attorney Harold Knowles Managing Partner





STEPS YOU SHOULD INVOLVED IN A MOTOR



By: Latuna Harris, Paralegal

SAFETY

Make sure that you and all of your passengers are safe.

TAKE PICTURES

Document any injuries and damages to your vehicle via your cellphone camera.

Take a picture of the "At Fault Driver's" License plate.





Imagine the summer arriving and you finally get a chance to take a much needed vacation. You're two (2) hours into your travels when you notice an 18 wheeler swerving into your lane. You honk your horn and startle them back into their lane, but you're now on edge because of the present danger. A few miles later as you attempt to pass the obviously distracted driver, they swerve into your lane again...only this time they clip the side of your car and it sends you spinning out of control! After a life threating swirl across three lanes, you finally come to rest just short of a downed tree and embankment.

ALERT THE AUTHORITIES Call 911 and wait in safe area until they arrive.

2

You check for injuries and get out to assess the damage to your vehicle. Your vehicle has been totaled and after observing the "At Fault Driver's" Big rig, you see minimal damage (of course)! The day has just been ruined and your much needed vacation is now null and void. What do you do now?

TAKE AFTER BEING VEHICLE ACCIDENT.

AUTHORITIES & EMT ARRIVE

EMTs will ask if you need to be transported. Should you or shouldn't you take a ride? If you're hurt then obviously you'll need to take a ride. If you feel fine, then you don't have to ride(however, you have 14 days after the accident to see a doctor or you risk lowering your insurance coverage's payout).

Police

Have your license, insurance & pictures ready for review. The Officer will take a statement from both of you separately. Be as detailed as possible. The officer will give you a copy of the driver's exchange form. A report should be available in 5 to 7 business days.

DO NOT ADMIT ANY FAULT!!!







DOCUMENT AND EXCHANGE

If the Driver is cordial, ask for his: Insurance Card, License, Telephone Number

CONTACT YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY

Alert your insurance company that you've been involved in an accident.



CONTACT AN ATTORNEY Roosevelt Randolph, Dawn Whitehurst & Linje' Rivers, Personal Injury

