



FLORIDA TUGS ILLINOISANS TO ITS SHORES



"I love Chicago. For tax reasons, I can't spend all the time there I'd like to."

— *Anonymous billionaire, former Illinoisan, and current Floridian*

Imagine a largely tax-free state—a state with no income tax, a state where an Illinoisan can move and lower his or her overall income tax rate by at least 10%. Like most other states, this state also has no estate tax, perhaps reducing a person's estate tax bill by 20%, or even 100%.

That state is called Florida (or Texas, Nevada, or Wyoming, among others).

Illinois is quite unlike Florida. A major bank recently published a study of which states, counties, and cities are least able to meet their municipal bond obligations. It is fascinating and astounding that Illinois, Cook County, and Chicago took top (dis)honors in all three categories. Is it any wonder that Illinois loses a resident every 5 minutes and about \$1,000 of taxable income every minute? Two out of three moves involving Illinois are outbound and those new folks moving to Illinois make materially less than those earners leaving the state.

The *Chicago Tribune* reported that in 2016 Chicago lost more millionaires than any other city on Planet Earth, with the exception of Rome and Paris. Future Illinois income tax increases, which are a virtual certainty, will only worsen the current situation.

I have published a humble website on how to safely flee Illinois, at IllinoisToFlorida.com. On that website, you will find a lengthy checklist of "Do's and Don'ts" on how to initiate the journey.

I have also started a new social club in Naples, Florida, called Illinois and Florida Club, Inc. It is free to join and there is an interesting lineup of speakers for 2018. Please join the fun if you can.

See IllinoisAndFloridaClub.com

Here is a preliminary look at the speakers scheduled to address the club:

- **Mayor of Naples, Bill Barnett** will speak on "*Lessons from Hurricane Irma*" on January 12, 2018.
- **John Tillman, CEO of the Illinois Policy Institute** will give his speech on "*The State of the State of Illinois*" on January 26, 2018.
- **Jordan Arnold, Esq.** is speaking on "*Cyber Crime – How to Protect your Family, Wealth, and Privacy*" on February 9, 2018.
- **Medal of Honor Recipient Sammy L. Davis** – the "Real Forrest Gump" – will share his fascinating story of courage on February 23, 2018.
- **Dr. Martha Rosenthal**, Florida Gulf Coast University Teacher of the Year and TEDx speaker, with "*Men and Women – as Different as They May Seem?*" on March 16, 2018.
- **Cook County Treasurer, Maria Pappas**, with her talk "*Is Cook County Cooked?*" will close out the series on March 30, 2018.

Please join the fun!



Florida tugs on Illinois.