

THE BUTTON LAW FIRM

HOT-BUTTON ISSUES

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PARALYZED AND STILL THRIVING

With Support, He Lives an Amazing Life as a Quadriplegic

When he was 18 years old, our friend Toby Cole was in a serious diving accident. The impact left him a quadriplegic — paralyzed from the neck down. His life changed completely overnight. As he puts it, recovery became his full-time job.

A lot of people in Toby's shoes might have given up on their dreams, but not him. He wanted to get out of the house, so he went to college and then to graduate school! By the time Toby was done taking higher education by storm, he had a law degree *and* a master in finance degree.

Toby started his career as a defense lawyer for big companies, but today he runs the Cole Law Firm to represent people just like him: victims of catastrophic injuries.

"For us to take a case, we look at two things. If we connect with the family and we can help the family ... and if we can make a difference. Can we change what happened so the community is safer for other people? We decided that's what we wanted to focus on, and these are the cases where we can do that," Toby says.

"Making a difference" is the Cole Law Firm's tagline, and it stood out to me right away when I first crossed paths with Toby at a trial lawyer

"If you or someone you love has been badly injured and needs help — any kind of help — my team and I will advocate for you."

seminar. We bonded over our dedication to treating clients like family. As we began working together on cases, Toby inspired us to look at spinal cord injury cases differently.

In the years we've known each other, Toby has taught me so much about what it's like to live as and with someone with a spinal cord injury. He taught me that your day becomes longer — it takes him



three hours to get to his office in the morning, so he wakes up at 5 a.m. He taught me that things are harder for para- and quadriplegics now than they were 30 years ago because of changes to insurance. And he taught me about the importance of a good van, railings, shower seats, and more.

Thanks to Toby, we never take a cookie-cutter approach to these cases, and we go way beyond advocating for our clients in the courtroom. They need more than legal help, and we do absolutely everything we can for them. That includes helping them navigate things as "simple" as the restroom, changing, getting ready in the morning, and getting a ride to our office. We've done the research and know who to call to get a power chair fixed or a railing installed.

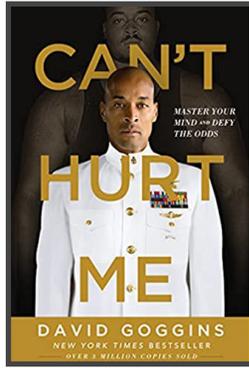
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THIS BOOK WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

RUSSELL REVIEWS *CAN'T HURT ME*

One of my all-time favorite books is *Can't Hurt Me: Master Your Mind and Defy the Odds* by David Goggins. I read it for the first time over the holidays and almost couldn't put it down to go to sleep. I haven't stopped thinking about it since. If you've never heard of David Goggins, here are just a few facts about him:

- He grew up in a physically abusive home with very little money.
- He's the only member of the armed forces to complete SEAL training, U.S. Army Ranger School, and Air Force Tactical Air Controller training.
- He's finished more than 60 endurance races and even won the Infitus 88K, one of the hardest races in the world.



Pretty amazing, right? In *Can't Hurt Me*, Goggins tells his life story and shares his tips for success and mental toughness. These four really stood out.

Lesson No. 1: Your past doesn't define you. The odds were against Goggins at every stage of his life, but he overcame the obstacles to become the best person he could be. In the book, he preaches accepting the life you were given but without using your hardships as an excuse or letting them define you.

Lesson No. 2: Life isn't fair — and that's okay. Goggins says we all need to accept life's unfairness instead of letting it limit us. The sooner we do this, the sooner we can push forward.

Lesson No. 3: Make time for the things you believe in. Goggins works full-time, but he still makes time to train for ultramarathons and advise his CEO friends. He teaches that we have to choose what we value and work hard for it. Once we do that, we can accomplish anything.

Lesson No. 4: Live by the 40% rule. The 40% rule claims that when you feel like quitting, you've really only used 40% of your potential. Goggins lives by this Jerry Rice quote: "Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can do what others can't."

Whether you're trying to overcome business obstacles, the fallout of an injury, or the struggles of aging, I highly recommend reading *Can't Hurt Me*. Its lessons are truly profound.

-Russell Button

AT&T NINJA, VOLUNTEER COACH, AND DAD OF 4 Colter Brewer Does It All!

When Russell met Colter Brewer for the first time, he was on the job fixing the phones at Texas Sprinkler. Colter works for AT&T here in the Dallas-Fort Worth area as a business executive, which means he helps small, medium, and large businesses with all things wireless — including cellphones and the internet of things (IOT).

Russell was so impressed by Colter's work for Texas Sprinkler that when we had a wireless issue here in the office, he called Colter in to fix it. Before long, the conversation turned away from the problem at hand and toward Colter's long career in wireless. Over the last 15 years working with Verizon and AT&T, his job has taken him all over the U.S.!

"Gosh, it's easier trying to think of places I *haven't* lived!" Colter told us later. "I haven't lived in Nevada, or out on the East Coast — in New York or any of those areas."

Colter says he got into the wireless business at just the right moment, hoping to meet new people and help them with their technology needs.

"I remember selling and working with the very first color-screen phone, let alone one with a camera!" he says. "I got to see it evolve to a camera phone, then a multimedia phone, then a PDA phone

— what they used to call a smartphone back in the day. Then those just took off. ... The advances in technology, seeing things evolve and things fail, it was really exciting."

Of course, all of this fast-paced work had a downside. Colter didn't have much time to be a dad! Now, he and his high school sweetheart Terisa have settled down in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to raise their four sons: 10-year-old Cooper, 8-year-old Carter, 6-year-old Grayson, and 2-year-old Hudson. When Colter isn't working, he's volunteering to coach the kids' football, basketball, and baseball teams.

"We're really ingrained in the community and try to give back as much as possible," Colter says. "I volunteer and my wife also volunteers! Usually she's the team mom."

If your business has a wireless problem, Colter is your guy. You can reach him at **469-428-2337** or **cb822j@att.com**.



Coach Colter

Colter & family



Colter coaching a game.

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We believe this work is incredibly important because access and support can make the difference between a lonely life and a fulfilling one.

"There's this big tendency for people in chairs to start cutting things out of their lives," Toby says. "It's, 'Well, I don't want to go to dinner because it's too much of a hassle and people are going to stare at me and someone has to feed me,' and so you cut that out. And then you don't go to your high school reunion or you don't go to dinner with friends, and pretty soon your entire world just revolves around living in your own house."

Toby adds that his work is about "helping folks realize that, 'Hey, there is a future out there, and it involves going back to work, and having relationships. Getting married, having a boyfriend, having a girlfriend, having kids. Just across the board fighting to get back to normal and not accepting that my full-time job is being disabled.'"

Toby's story is awesome. He's a lawyer, runs his own firm, and is always pushing his limits. He says that's possible in part

because he had support when he was first injured. One of his aunts worked in insurance, and when he was 18, she and another aunt pushed him to look into aid programs that would help put him through college.

"I didn't even realize that there were people doing that for me, and it makes such a huge, huge difference," he says. "That's the thing Russell and his team are so good at. They immerse themselves in 'What do our people need? How do they need it?'"

If you or someone you love has been badly injured and needs help — any kind of help — my team and I will advocate for you. We'll listen to you, spend time with you, and help solve the problems that only you can see. Once you connect with us, you're part of the BLF family for life, and we'll always have your back.

-Russell Button

BLF HIGHLIGHT REEL



Russell and his dad celebrating his dad's birthday.



Russell's parents and his niece Aria smiling over tacos.



Ashley with Calvin and friends cheering on the Houston SaberCats Rugby team. Ashley's brother-in-law (second from the right) plays for the team!

CLIENT REVIEW

"When my daughter had a daycare injury, I had no idea what to do next. I was angry, scared, and every other emotion you can imagine when something happens to your child. Calling The Button Law Firm was the best decision I could have ever made for my family. In that time of fear and uncertainty, they took incredible care of us. From the initial phone calls with Jacky, to the conversations with Russell, the guidance they provided was invaluable. They talked through everything with us, answered every question we had, and gave us peace of mind. They genuinely cared about what happened to us and helped us make the best decision for our daughter. Every interaction we had with them blew me away — the customer service, the passion about what they do, and the fact that they just TRULY CARE about you and your family — there is no better choice for you if you are seeking representation. Thank you so much to Jacky, Russell, and everyone at The Button Law Firm. Y'all are a treasure and I will never forget what you did for my family."

-Allison A.

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FIGHTING BACK AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT

We Secured Justice With Attorney Todd Bailess

Here at BLF, we represent some of society's most vulnerable people, including kids in daycare, patients injured in hospitals, and folks with catastrophic injuries (see Pg. 1 for more on that). Now we've added another category to that list: people harassed in the workplace.

We started down this path when our good friend, Todd Bailess of the Bailess Law Firm, reached out for help with a big batch of sexual harassment cases. He'd uncovered complaints from seven young women working at a popular chain restaurant in West Virginia that painted a terrible picture of the restaurant's work environment.

Five men on staff at the popular chain restaurant — including a registered sex offender — acted inappropriately toward those women. They made sexual noises and comments about their bodies, touched them without consent, shared shirtless photos, sent flirty Facebook messages, and even showed them pornography. The conditions got so bad that at least one woman was forced to quit her job.

When Todd found out this restaurant chain didn't take the victims' reports seriously or respond appropriately, he went to bat for the victims in court over violations of the West Virginia Human Rights Act and brought our team in to go after them. Together, we've resolved four of the women's cases so far!



Working side-by-side with Todd has been inspiring. He just opened his West Virginia firm in January 2021, and he has already built a reputation for handling a lot of the same case types we do. The difference is that he puts a strong focus on high-profile, high-stakes workplace sexual harassment cases. Todd has dedicated his life and career to getting justice for sexual harassment victims, and it has been our pleasure to help him do what he does best!

If you or someone you know has been a victim of workplace harassment, call our team today or reach out to Todd at **BailessLawFirm.com**. We'll always have your back.