

THE BUTTON LAW FIRM

HOT-BUTTON ISSUES

www.buttonlawfirm.com | 214-888-2216

4315 W. Lovers Lane, Suite A, Dallas, TX 75209 | 1900 W. Illinois Avenue, Suite 101, Midland, TX 79701

WE'VE MADE BIG PLANS TO HELP YOU SUCCEED!

Why Creating Our 'Vivid Vision' Was Ashley's Favorite Moment of 2023

Last November, I went over to Russell's house bright and early on a weekend morning. We covered his kitchen table in butcher block paper, pulled out multiple whiteboards, and set a copy of "Vivid Vision: A Remarkable Tool For Aligning Your Business Around a Shared Vision of the Future" by Cameron Herold on the table. Then, we picked up our dry-erase markers and got to work.

"We'd never put our goals for BLF on paper before, and I wasn't sure how the team would react. Would they love what we wrote? Would they find things we could have done better?"

I spent more than 12 hours at Russell's that day, and it was one of the most rewarding experiences I've had since joining BLF in 2017. Our mission was pretty simple: We wanted to put our three-year vision for the firm into writing so that we could share it with the team, other attorneys, our vendors, our clients, and potential new hires, keeping everyone on the same page. We asked questions like:

- What does the Button Law Firm stand for?
- What kind of service do we want to provide?

- What is our mission?
- What do we want our team to look like in three years?

Then, we brainstormed and brain-mapped our answers, scribbling down our thoughts into little bubbles. If you've ever seen a vision board created that was covered in pictures and quotes cut out of magazines, you have the right idea!

The next day, we started to turn our brain dump into a concise, easy-to-read, nine-page pamphlet. I worked on the copy and design for weeks, getting it ready to roll out to the team. But I'm not going to lie — Russell and I were really nervous about sharing our "vision."

We'd never put our goals for BLF on paper before, and I wasn't sure how the team would react. Would they love what we wrote? Would they find things we could have done better? My palms were sweating a little when we called everyone into our conference room in January to watch the presentation over breakfast.

But they received it really well! Everyone was excited about our plan, which covered everything from expanding the role of our operations team so that Russell and



I can spend more time on our cases to events we want to attend in the community. After the presentation, we went around the table, and each person talked about things they were particularly excited about.

As a leader, that moment felt SO good! I'll never forget the energy and enthusiasm that filled the conference room as we discussed how we'd build

a better firm for our clients and partners — you included. I'm celebrating six years with BLF this month, and it was one of the best moments of my entire career here. (One of the other best moments was finally settling a deadly premises liability case that lasted all six years. The mother and daughters we represented are like family to me now, so it meant a lot to secure a life-changing amount of money for them.)

Looking back on my time with BLF, I'm incredibly proud of everything we've accomplished since 2017. The future will be so good, and I'm happy you're a part of it. Thank you for reading, and thank you for a fantastic six years!

-Ashley Washington

LET'S CELEBRATE WORKING PARENTS!

YOU'RE THE UNSUNG HEROES OF TODAY'S SOCIETY

My sister and I grew up in daycare while our parents worked. Back then, most of our friends had one parent who stayed home or family nearby to help, but now, things have changed! According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, both parents work in about 65% of families

— and that's just the dual-parent households. More than 85% of single dads work, as do 75% of single moms. To me, all of those parents are heroes!

Here at BLF, we know how tough it must be to leave a baby or toddler at daycare when you'd rather spend time together. But that's what needs to happen if you want to put food on the table or pursue a career you're passionate about. It's so impressive to watch people juggle both successfully,



including Rosie, Cristina, Rena, and the other working parents on the BLF team.

One reason BLF exists is to help make the lives of working parents easier. We do what we do to ensure good, safe daycares are available for your kids. To help those places shine, we

weed out the bad options, holding them accountable for abuse and neglect and setting new precedents for the industry. We also provide resources that working parents can use to find safe daycares.

My little sister, Roxana, is an OB-GYN, and when she went back to work after having my niece, she used our free "10 Tips for Finding a Safe Daycare" guide to find a trustworthy place for her to stay.

My team has used the guide, too, and so have dozens of our friends, clients, and partners! If you want to download it for free, you can scan the QR code on this page.



As the son of working parents, the team leader of others, and the lawyer for even more, I'm proud to celebrate Working Parents Day on Sept. 16. To hear from one of the amazing working parents my team and I have helped, check out Daija's story at the bottom of this page. If you're a working parent like her, thank you for everything you do. You're a hero to your kids and to me!

-Russell Button

MEET TEXAS SUPERMOM DAIJA SHELTON

She's on a Quest to Make the World a Better Place

Earning a degree, working, and raising a child are difficult tasks — so doing all three at once makes you a superstar! That's how we feel about Daija Shelton, one of our most inspiring clients.



Daija is a single mom to a little boy and also works full-time in the operating room at Children's Medical Center Dallas. As if that's not impressive enough, she uses every spare moment to study. This fall, after hundreds of coffee-fueled study sessions and even more late nights, she'll finally earn her bachelor's degree in child development and child life.

We're so proud of everything Daija has accomplished. When an obstacle lands in the way of her dream, she doesn't hesitate to tackle it — no matter how scary it might be.

For example, when her son was a toddler, she was on her way to pick up him up from daycare when she learned that he had suffered from a bottle warmer burn injury. Amazingly, Daija didn't panic. Instead, she called our firm and took immediate steps to

hold the daycare accountable. We recently settled that case, and thanks to Daija's quick action, dozens of Texas kids will be safe from similar negligence.

After Daija earns her bachelor's degree, she doesn't plan to slow down. Instead, she told us she's charging full steam ahead toward a master's! Daija plans to study social work and hopes to open a group home for teenage boys one day. She wants to offer them stability, support, and expanded opportunities — just like her mom did for her and her siblings when she moved them to Dallas when Daija was a kid.

In our time working together, Daija has become part of the BLF family. Her heart and determination remind us why our work matters. We are grateful to have been able to help her with her case, and we can't wait to see how she and her son change the world!

THE HIDDEN ABUSE IN 'TRANSPARENT' DAYCARES

BLF Stepped in When Livestream Cameras Failed to Protect a Child

If a daycare has a livestream camera that parents can access at any time, you might assume that it's a safe place to leave your children. After all, employees will stay on their best behavior when they're being recorded ... right? Unfortunately, that's not always the case. Even the most "transparent" daycares can still participate in negligence and abuse — and one Texas mom we represented found that out the hard way.

That mom, who we'll call Jessica, logged on to her son's daycare livestream and witnessed a caregiver mistreating him. The employee yanked her little boy by the arm, pushed his head down aggressively into his pillow, isolated him from the other kids, and even refused to give him food and water!

Jessica was shocked by what she saw, and her son (we'll call him Shilo) was



traumatized. She quickly called the daycare, and they admitted to the abuse — but they didn't report it to the state of Texas. Eventually, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services found out about the situation and discovered even more hidden misconduct.

That same caregiver let Shilo walk and sleep with a bottle in his mouth (both prohibited by the Texas minimum

standards for child care), threatened him, and scared him so badly that he was caught on camera crying and running away in fear. The state quickly stepped in to ban the offending daycare employee and force the facility to fix its operations, but it was too late for Jessica and Shilo.

Jessica couldn't turn back the clock and keep her son safe, but she could hold the daycare accountable — so she turned to BLF for help. We went to bat for her and her son, laying out all of the daycare's violations and mistakes. Our effort paid off! We were able to secure a recovery for Shiloh so that this family could move forward and heal.

If you know a working mom like Jessica who could use the help of a daycare injury firm, please share our phone number (**214-888-2216**). We're here to help.

BLF HIGHLIGHT REEL



CLIENT REVIEW

"I cannot recommend the Button Law Firm enough for families looking for a kind, compassionate attorney to handle their daycare injury or car accident case in Texas. We have had the fortune of working on cases with Russ and Ashley, and it is clear that they prioritize communication and making sure their clients feel taken care of every step of the way. We continue to refer all injury cases in Texas to their team because we have no doubt that they will treat our clients with respect and dignity and stop at no ends to get them a full, fair recovery."

-Chelsea F.

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Dallas, Texas 75209

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EURIKA FOUND US ON HER 'NEW ADVENTURE'!

Dive Into Our Intake Specialist's Heartwarming Story



Our intake specialist, Eurika Webster, brought a unique list of accomplishments with her when she joined the BLF team this spring. Over the last 30 years, she's been a high school English teacher, cheer coach, mom of three, secretarial administrative assistant, grandmother of five, and children's book author!

Those diverse experiences come together in one warm, funny, and hardworking person. As our intake specialist, Eurika takes calls from new clients, listens to their stories, and sends referrals to our network of attorneys. You might have spoken with her already, as she's often the first to answer our phone! After teaching English for 21 years, Eurika says it's refreshing to do something different.

"I was lucky enough to retire from teaching right before COVID-19 came. Then during COVID-19, I kept two of my grandbabies at home to teach them. After COVID-19 settled, my daughter-in-

law and son put the kids in daycare, and I decided I was ready to go on a new adventure," she says. "I'd always been interested in law — in fact, I kind of wish I had taken that route as opposed to teaching! But everything happens for a reason."

Eurika's writing skills, professionalism, and experience working with kids make her a great fit for her job at BLF. She loves her work and truly shines when talking to parents whose kids are going through difficult times after daycare injuries or car crashes.

"You have to have understanding, sincerity, compassion, and respect for every client. That comes easily for me — as a woman, mom, grandmother, and veteran teacher, I can really relate to a lot of the people that call," Eurika says.

No doubt Eurika is thinking of her cherished grandkids in those moments. Li'l Coby, Aya, Aliya, and TJ are the lights of her life, and 6-year-old Hadlee even stars in her children's books! Hadlee and her "Gam" bonded during the pandemic, and Eurika turned their memories into stories. Next time you call our office, be sure to ask Eurika about her upcoming book, "Hadlee Bug Making Blueberry Muffins With Gam" — she'd love to tell you all about it.