

THE BUTTON LAW FIRM

HOT-BUTTON ISSUES

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THE GARDEN THAT ALMOST WASN'T

A Day in the Life of My Relentless, Overachieving, One-of-a-Kind Dad

When I want to explain what my dad, Terry, is like, I only have to tell one story. It happened this Mother's Day. My dad was spending the day with my sister, Rox, and her husband, Dom, and they made the mistake of telling him about revamping their backyard.

"We want to tear out this old dog house and all of these old railroad ties from the previous owner and put in an outdoor fireplace and garden," Rox explained to Mom and Dad.

This was just idle small talk, but then my dad turned to Dom and asked, "Well, do you want to do it today?"

My brother-in-law started shaking his head, but it was already too late. My dad was in project mode! The next thing you know, Dom had his tools out, and Dad was on the patio brainstorming. A handful of hours and a lot of hard work later, they had the patio cleared and adjusted, and a garden was taking shape in the dirt.

That story perfectly encapsulates what I love about my dad. He's a hard worker and a go-getter. He always strives to better himself, and he takes care of what needs to be done, especially when it comes to his family. No matter how exhausted he is, he keeps on grinding the gears and moving forward.

I like to think that I've inherited a little bit of that dedication. After spending this Father's Day with him, I was reminded again of what



an inspiration and a role model my dad is for me. He's a self-taught entrepreneur. He started working at a construction company 30 years ago, and today, he owns the place. He's my sounding board for everything, from building and growing BLF to understanding family dynamics, and he taught me how to set goals, push myself, and stay motivated to climb every mountain that pops up on the path toward growing my firm.

I can call home at any time of the day or night, only to hear, "Oh, your dad's at the office." Sometimes he gets up at 2:30 a.m. to get into work by 4 and then stays until 11 p.m. to make sure things are done right. My dad gives absolutely everything he has every day. Whenever I have doubts, I can count on him

to inspire me to get back to work and find that reservoir of dedication for my craft.

This year, my dad took on a new responsibility: He became a grandpa. Of course, he's overachieving at that too! He took his granddad duties on with full force and spends hours with my niece whenever Rox and Dom need a break, making sure she gets her nap, breakfast, and dinner. I hope to emulate his dedication to family when I have one of my own.

If you're reading this, Dad, I'm lucky to get to spend every Father's Day with you. Last month was a good one, and I'm looking forward to many more!

-Russell Button

MEET UP-AND-COMING ACTOR WILLIAM BOAZ!

BLF INTERVIEWS A SOON-TO-BE LOCAL CELEBRITY

Do you remember the 2016 Hulu miniseries “11.23.63”? It was based on a Stephen King novel and tells the story of a time-traveling English teacher trying to save the life of President John F. Kennedy. It was headed by executive producer J.J. Abrams, starred James Franco and Sarah Gadon, and featured a friend of our firm: up-and-coming local actor William Boaz!

William was an extra on the show and played a reporter who appears on the street behind James Franco. He wasn’t on screen long, but those few minutes gave him a national debut.

“On the front page of USA Today, there was a picture of Franco running, and he was running by me!” William says. It was a thrill to pick out his face from the crowd and a rush to know that even without any lines, he was on the cover of a major newspaper.

Acting is a second career for William. He started taking small roles as an extra after a forklift accident at the shipping and receiving company where he worked left him on disability. The work doesn’t pay much (he made \$150 per 14-hour day on “11.23.63”), but William truly loves acting and says it fulfills a childhood dream.

“At 18 or 19, I thought about becoming an actor, but then I got married early at 19, we had three children, and life just got me busy,” he says.



Now, though, after years as an extra on projects like “11.23.63” and the TV show “Murder Made Me Famous,” William is doubling down.

The pandemic threw a wrench in his plans (many projects stopped filming and a mix-up at the passport office forced him to turn down a role in Mexico), but this summer, his career is back on track.

“I started getting into going out for speaking roles,” he says. “I’ve gone out for three and gotten all three of them! I started filming [here in Houston] in June. I always play a lieutenant or a cop.”

Russell met William at a focus group, and we’ve followed his career ever since. Keep an eye out for him in “Vindication” on Amazon Prime. We’re cheering him on and hope you will too!

A HAPPY ENDING TO A TERRIBLE STORY

BLF Gets Closure for Twins Abused at Daycare

Early last year, the mother of our clients (we’ll call her Sarah) saw one of the worst things a parent can experience: video footage of a daycare employee abusing her children. Sarah’s kids, 2-year-old twins who we’ll call Jack and Jill, were physically abused at their Texas daycare on two separate occasions. Both incidents were caught on camera, and neither one was reported.

The first time, a daycare worker violently yanked Jack up from his cot, then grabbed him and pushed him down face first. The second time, that same worker struck Jill across the face. Luckily, Sarah caught the first incident on video and discovered the second one while scanning through additional tapes with the daycare director.

The daycare was clearly in the wrong: They failed to appropriately supervise the kids, discipline them correctly, provide a safe

environment, report the incidents, or hire competent, properly trained staff. Their negligence caused Jack and Jill emotional and physical distress. They developed a genuine fear of strangers and refused to trust adults outside their family. As a result, Sarah, who works as a nurse, had to fly her mother in from out of state to watch the twins in the aftermath of their trauma. To recoup her expenses and get compensation for her children, Sarah came to us.

We went to bat for Jack and Jill in court. The case got complicated when police and state investigators confronted the daycare, and it claimed that the video of the incidents couldn’t be recovered. But we didn’t let those tactics stop us! We kept fighting, and in the end, our team won. The daycare’s insurance company settled for the full policy limits, and now Jack and Jill will have funds in the bank to make life easier when they leave high school.



Ideally, the trauma at the heart of this case would have never happened. But since we can’t turn back time, we’re proud that we got justice for Jack and Jill. If you or someone you know has children in a similarly terrible daycare situation, please come to us. We’re here to help!

THE DOCTOR DID WHAT?!

3 Crazy Misdiagnoses and Retained Instrument Cases

In every profession, 99% of the people are amazing and dedicated. This same principle is true in the healthcare field with doctors and nurses. Many of our current and past clients are doctors and nurses, including my sister and her husband! However, just as in every profession, there are bad apples that often overshadow the other fantastic doctors and nurses doing great work. This can result in crazy things, like sponges left inside patients' bodies after surgery or even the amputation of the wrong limb!

The three cases below sound radical, but they're all real-life examples of doctors misdiagnosing or mistreating patients. Our team is fighting for justice in all of them.

THE CASE OF THE MISSING DRILL BIT

In this crazy case, our client went in for a routine oral surgery, but it made their

jaw feel worse instead of better. The oral surgeon dismissed their concerns and suggested medication, but eventually, our client managed to get an X-ray. It showed the surgeon had left a broken drill bit embedded in their mouth and then tried to cover it up!

AN AWFUL WRIST MIX-UP

Our client was admitted to the hospital with a fractured wrist, but after the operation, it was still numb and immobile. Then, something popped! When our client got a second opinion, they discovered the surgeon had installed hardware in their wrist incorrectly, damaging their nerves. The mistake resulted in several operations and permanent damage.

'GROWING PAINS' GONE WRONG

This young client's radiologist and pediatrician missed a lesion in their



knee during an examination. The client's discomfort was misdiagnosed as "growing pains," and when the lesion was finally discovered, it took multiple surgeries and hardware to fix it. Our client will deal with the fallout for life.

Our team decided to fight for these patients after reading the book *The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right* by Atul Gawande. It details how something as simple as following a checklist during and after diagnosis and surgery can save lives in the hospital. Hopefully, by fighting for victims like these, we can help make checklists more common and prevent more injuries in the future.

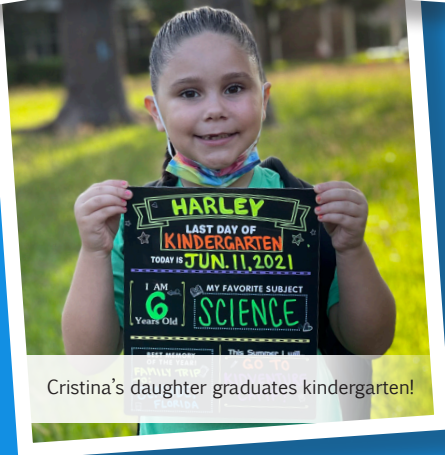
BLF HIGHLIGHT REEL



Aria and I in Lubbock for my sister's birthday



Scott Snellings, his daughter, and I fishing recently



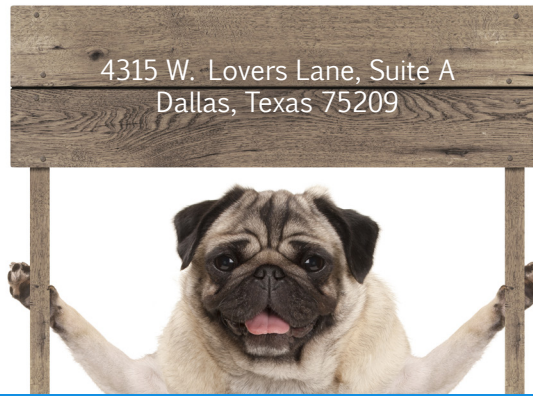
Cristina's daughter graduates kindergarten!

CLIENT REVIEW



Words truly cannot express my love and gratitude for this firm and Russell's team. The communication was consistent, kind, and honest throughout the entire process. Russell and his team went above and beyond for my son and our family. The circumstances surrounding our case are heavy and emotionally painful, but this team of professionals handled each detail with compassion, knowledge, experience, and a beast-mode mentality that ultimately brought us closure and set my son up for a successful start into adulthood. I am more than thankful and HIGHLY recommend The Button Law Firm."

Tonia



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Garden That Almost Wasn't
- 2 Meet Up-and-Coming Local Actor William Boaz
A Happy Ending for Twins Abused at Daycare
- 3 3 Times Doctors Messed Up and BLF Came to the Rescue
BLF Highlight Reel
- 4 Cristina Celebrates 1 Year With BLF

HAPPY 1-YEAR WORKIVERSARY, CRISTINA!

Cristina Celebrates 1 Year With BLF

We've already had the excellent paralegal Cristina Yanez on our team for a whole year! It feels like just yesterday we were writing in the newsletter about her crazy trip from Chicago to Houston and moving her houseplant collection across state lines. You might remember that Cristina is Ashley's sister, and she has thrived here since day one, just as we knew she would.



"Not only did Cristina learn how we do things and do what was asked of her, but she also learned how to make everything we were doing better and more efficient," Russel says. "The best part is that through that process, we've discovered even more of her advanced skill sets."

Cristina says there has definitely been a learning curve at BLF, but she has enjoyed the ride and is a stronger, more knowledgeable paralegal because of it.

"I would say probably the biggest thing that I've learned since joining the team would be how to work up a daycare case and write daycare demands because I never worked with any daycare cases previously. I did mainly car wreck cases, a lot of personal injury, and medical malpractice. Daycare cases are a whole different ballgame for me to learn!" she says.

Fortunately for us, Cristina learned at lightning speed.

"Cristina is an evolver. She makes it happen, and she's becoming a leader too!"

Russell says. "She recently did her first training session with one of our newer team members. She hadn't been in that position before, but she did a great job."

Cristina has become a teacher outside of work, too. Recently, she used her new knowledge of daycare inspection and deficiency reports to help a close friend find a safe daycare for her son. She loves learning things like that on the job and getting to know our clients personally.

"Cristina is always trying to beat her best, and she has made our team far better," Russell says.

On top of her one-year workiversary, Cristina also celebrated several other milestones this year: She turned 30, and her daughter is starting first grade. If you chat with her this month, be sure to say congratulations!