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Courage

by Brian Beckom



Are you a courageous person? I hope so. Because it takes courage to accomplish most anything worth accomplishing.

When you decide on a personal or professional goal, it takes courage to make a plan, commit, and see it through to the end. People will tell you what's wrong with your goals and plans. Heck, your own inner voice will probably be your biggest critic. It take courage to stay focused and committed and reach your goals despite obstacles and setbacks.

Real courage isn't a lack of fear or doubt.

Real courage is when you have fears and doubts and move forward anyway.

You have to be courageous to become friends with someone who's not so popular, to change the status quo, to challenge the powerful and influential when they're wrong.

You need courage to face your biggest fears and stare them down.

You need courage to do the right thing when everyone else around you is doing the wrong thing.

It takes courage to admit your mistakes and say, "I'm sorry." And really mean it.

It takes courage to ask someone for help, to show vulnerability, to push beyond your perceived limits to new horizons.

Real courage isn't a lack of fear or doubt. Real courage is when you have fears and doubts and move forward anyway.

Courage is the difference between people who try and fail, try and fail, try and fail, then succeed beyond their wildest expectations, and people who are too afraid to even try. ■



To your success,

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4 TIPS to “Pool Safely” This Summer

Pools and spas are a welcome escape from the heat of the summer. For parents, pools can be terrifying. Parents know that, no matter how prepared you are, in the blink of an eye, you can lose your precious child.

In 2013, there were 28 reported drownings of children under the age of 15. That's 28 children too many, for our comfort. Statistics from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System show that children between the ages of one and three are 64% more likely to have drowning-related injuries. Reducing the number of drowning-related injuries and deaths will only be successful when parents, pool owners, and local safety officials work together to keep children safe.

We know the best way to prevent a tragedy is to be prepared.

So, before you pull out the swimsuits and floaties, check out these pool safety tips:

- 1 Never, under any circumstances, leave your child unattended.**
- 2 If your child goes missing, check the pool first.**
- 3 Always have a phone on you or within reach when you're at the pool so you can call for help immediately.**
- 4 Make sure pool owners follow safety regulations:**
 - Are there 4-foot tall fences and gates around the pool?
 - Are the gates self-closing and self-latching?
 - Are there secure covers on the pool? Are there alarms?

Get more safety tips at www.poolsafely.gov, and check www.vbattorneys.com for more updates on how we're working to keep kids safe. ■

What's New at the Office



Brian and his wife attended the Gulf Coast Cystic Fibrosis charity gala in April, to support their friends' children and all the other kids who are fighting the fight.



Vuk went up to Baylor to inspect the equipment and the construction site where our clients' loved one drowned.

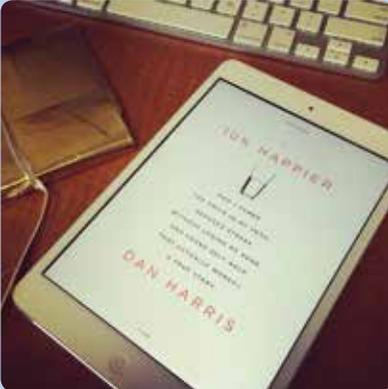
Brian inspected a rig for one of our offshore cases.



Book of the Month

10% Happier: How I Tamed the Voice in My Head

by Dan Harris



Dan Harris, the anchor of ABC's *Nightline*, had a very public meltdown on *Good Morning America* in 2004.

In his search for means to control the inner chaos that caused his meltdown, Harris found meditation.

This book explores the oft-maligned world of meditation as a means of helping us workaholics be happier people and be more successful in both work and life.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: Cabo Done Right

Dreaming of paradise?

Cabo Done Right turns your dreams into reality.

This Houston-based business creates one-of-a-kind vacations based on your needs. Love fishing? Want to go whale-watching? Just need to escape? Cabo Done Right's concierge service can provide you with the perfect vacation.

Owned by Robin Reichle, Cabo Done Right hand-selects the villas they rent, and are personally inspected several times a year. Once you

have provided Cabo Done Right with your vacation dates, budget, and group size, the company will match you to the villa that meets your specific needs.

The service doesn't end there! When you land in Cabo, Cabo Done Rights' personal drivers will pick you up from the airport and deliver you to your villa, where you will be greeted by a company representative with appetizers and margaritas to slake your thirst after your trip. Your company representative will be available to you 24/7 to arrange transportation, sunset cruises, golf, fishing, water sports, and more. Chef/bartender services are available to you as well. No request is too big or too small.

According to Brian "I've gone to Cabo with my wife twice in the past two years with Robin and her husband. The first time I went, I was blown away by the expansive house, the food, the golf, and everything else. The second trip was even better than the first. I wouldn't even consider using any service other than Cabo Done Right."

What are you waiting for?

Plan that girls trip or family reunion right now. Go to www.cabodoneright.com to get started today. ■



Cabo Done Right creates one-of-a-kind vacations based on your needs.

Want Help from the VB Attorneys Team?

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IN THIS ISSUE...

- Are you courageous? Brian shares his definition of courage.
- 4 tips to keep your kids safe at the pool this summer.
- How to find your paradise with help from Cabo Done Right.



THANKS FOR YOUR REFERRALS!

Readers of this newsletter have referred 220 clients to our firm since 2009. Thank you so much! (P.S. If you're not friends with Brian on Facebook, send him a friend request and he'll confirm it.)

VB CASES OF INTEREST: MAY 2014

Brian has been hired as an advisor by Captain Wren Thomas. Captain Thomas was held hostage by Nigerian pirates for almost three weeks last fall. A career mariner and a US Marine Corps veteran, Captain Thomas survived this harrowing ordeal and is driven to prevent other mariners from suffering the same fate. Check our website, our social media, and this newsletter for more updates about the Captain's campaign to eradicate piracy.

Curtis settled a case for a confidential amount. His client was riding a Houston Metro bus when a truck ran a light and hit the bus. His client hurt her back and neck in the accident. She received medical treatment and has been able to recover from her injuries.

A welder from Washington State has hired VB Attorneys to represent him after he slipped on the dock and broke

his heel. His company was unsure how to report his accident, and they were also negligent in paying their workers comp insurance. Our client reported them to the Department of Labor and began to search for attorneys. He found us online, talked to Vuk about his case, and hired us.

A Florida woman hired us after her husband, a career railroad man, died of lung cancer. Brian will be handling her case. Her husband spent decades breathing in coal dust without any protective equipment. The lengthy exposure to coal dust is a known cause of lung cancer, and one of many reasons railroad workers are now provided with protective breathing equipment. ■



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