



"You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world."

A Monthly Publication of Ben Glass Law

This newsletter is for informational purposes only and no legal advice is intended.

## HOBBY LOBBY: A Blow for Liberty and Freedom *by Ben Glass*

*Last month, the Supreme Court of United States decided the Hobby Lobby case.*

The Court ruled that "closely held" companies can use religious objections to avoid covering contraception in employee health benefit plans. The Court decided the case essentially hinged upon the employer's "right" to the "free exercise of its religion."

Opponents of the case object that "employers should not deprive employees of preventive health care."

Unfortunately, the law is now a real mess. Creating or changing laws based upon "religious freedom" means that no one will really know until a case winds its way through the courts (taking years and costing a ton) what the law means. This decision will lead to all sorts of litigation over such issues as:

- *Is this a "real" religion?*
- *Are the purported beliefs "firmly held"?*
- *What if the employer's religion objects to blood transfusions, antidepressants or the like?*

This was totally unnecessary. **What the Court should have said is this:**

An employer is FREE to make a job offering to the public if it feels that it needs additional employees.

That employer is FREE to set the terms of engagement: what wages it will pay, what days and hours you're expected to work, what benefits (if any) it will offer, what uniform may be required, etc. Anyone who is looking for a job is FREE to apply for the job. They're also FREE to not apply for the job.

If a job seeker does not like the (1) wages, (2) hours they are expected to work, (3) benefits being offered by the employer, or (4) anything else about the job that is being offered, then that job seeker is FREE to look elsewhere for a job or start their own business.

There you go: Total Freedom to decide, using your own mind, what is best for YOU. No government intervention necessary. No rights violated. No one has prevented you from acting in your own interest. No ambiguity. No litigation. ■

### HOBBY LOBBY

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## Congratulations to Ben's daughter Kelsey!



*Kelsey recently graduated from William and Mary.*

*Kelsey recently graduated from William and Mary, receiving a Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Psychology. She's not stopping, either! She's going to get her Master's in Elementary Education from William and Mary, as well. She's looking forward to graduating in 2015, but this summer she actually has two jobs, one as a nanny for two different families with two children each and one at The Campus Shop in Williamsburg. This was her first summer fully away from home, but the Glass family was happy to have her with them for the family vacation. ■*

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**FREE INSTANT DOWNLOAD**

## THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS SECRET



Is there one secret to success that, if concentrated upon exclusively, will literally

change a person's entire life experience and results? If so, what is it?

Download your free chapter at [Ultimate-Success-Secret.com](http://Ultimate-Success-Secret.com)

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## How to do College the Right Way

live your life without mom waking you up every morning and forcing you to make good choices. If you schedule an 8 a.m. class, don't hit the snooze button. College is likely the greatest learning opportunity you will have in your entire life. Go to class with focus, energy, and the intent to apply what you've learned towards helping your family and your community.

**Strong time management skills come with routine.** Routine starts with writing down your ideal daily schedule. It's amazing the power just writing something down has, but it's true—until you write down your goals, they can't

*Success waits for those students who have the guts to **take it.** Don't wait for "permission" or "perfect timing."*

become reality. Set aside time for studying, playing, morning reading/running/meditating, etc., and *stick to it!* College is hectic and fun and things will pop up, so it will never be perfect, but if you don't make your own schedule, someone or something else will.

### Take Advantage of Extra Resources

College students are good at keeping useful resources a secret. Heck, even Facebook was a well-kept college secret in its early days. But here are some basics (including some that universities may not want you to know):

- **Always check the aftermarket for your textbooks.** College textbooks are insanely expensive, and depending on the class, may have nothing changed in them but the problem sets. Use Amazon, used book stores—or, better yet, students who just took the class last

semester—to save boatloads of money on what is one of the biggest expenses at college. Remember, most universities are required to have all current textbooks available free in the library, so if push comes to shove, you always have a fallback.

- While we're talking about libraries, most students don't know that their school has an essay editing department run by the English grad students. If you want an instant bump up in the quality of your writing, take it to these guys.

Best of luck to all of our college-bound graduates. It may seem like the whole world is putting pressure on you to cure cancer and find alternative energy sources—and that's because it's true. We need you to be entrepreneurs and innovators and scientists now more than ever. And it all starts with making the choice right now to manage your time, make connections, devour the knowledge presented to you, and make the world a better place. (No pressure or anything...)

Be inspired. Success waits for those students who have the guts to **take it.** Don't wait for "permission" or "perfect timing." Because in the real world, there really are no such things. ■

## BenGlassLaw Sponsors the Pet Walk/Jog/Run

*We are always on the lookout for ways to give back and reach out to the community.* Since Ben is a runner, we wanted to find a run that we could help. After a quick Internet search, one of the members of our marketing team came across the Pet Walk/Jog/Run benefiting the American Humane Association. After a few emails back and forth with Jason Acevedo, the founder of Green Lion Events which was holding the run, we were officially a sponsor!

Jason and the entire Green Lion team were just as excited to have us be a part of their team as we were to be there! We happily donated over 200 of our BenGlassLaw bags to be given to each of the participants and any other sponsors could place their items in the bags, as well!

When Laura from our marketing team arrived at the event, she was impressed by the organization of the event. "Think about it," she said "more than 200 dogs in the same area... It's impressive that there were no problems!"

There was a 1K, 3K, and a 5k available to the attendees. There was a petting zoo, a food truck, and tons of fun!

Thanks to Jason and the entire Green Lion team for letting us be a part of this cool event! ■



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# The Verdict is in: People Love our Law Firm!



We're excited to announce that BenGlassLaw has been selected for the 21st edition of *Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of **Medical Malpractice, Legal Malpractice, and Personal Injury litigation**. This list is chosen by our peers in the industry, so we couldn't be prouder of the accomplishment.

Here's the kicker, though: it's all thanks to you! Your positive feedback on sites like [www.Avvo.com](http://www.Avvo.com) and [www.Superlawyers.com](http://www.Superlawyers.com) has made BenGlassLaw the go-to hub for legal information in Virginia. Even if we can't help someone with our services, we've become well known for pointing people in the right direction no matter what their legal issue (usually sending them away with a bag of my free books!).

Check out what someone recently had to say about our Criminal and Traffic attorney, James Abrenio. We really do pride ourselves on changing people's lives here at BenGlassLaw, and this is a good example:

*"Imagine being in my situation. I had been a law-abiding, tax-paying productive member of society for my whole life. Working as a federal civil servant for 30 years, I had raised four children, been widowed, been divorced, remarried, and I was making the best of a very difficult life.*

*"Despite that, my life (as I knew it) almost came to an end one unfortunate night. Due to a confluence of unforeseen and confused events, all beyond my control, I found myself being awakened by the*

*police from my bed one night, arrested, taken to jail, and accused of a very serious criminal offense. Not only that, the crime that I was accused of, domestic violence, was being prosecuted by the Commonwealth of Virginia. It did not matter that there was no victim complaining or evidence that a crime had been committed, other than the confused words of some misinformed individuals who mistakenly assumed (or implied) that a crime was committed.*



*Thanks to you, BenGlassLaw now has more positive client reviews and lawyer endorsements on Avvo.com than any lawyer in Virginia!*

*"So 'what can you do' when you are in such a desperate situation? It seemed my life was ending, I would lose my wife, job, children...the repercussions of a 'guilty' verdict would have been horrible. I knew my only hope was to find the best possible criminal defense attorney possible. God helped me to find that attorney; his name is James Abrenio.*

*"Against all odds, James used his unique talents to help get my case dismissed by the Commonwealth. He also really cared about my well being through this whole ordeal, and helped me to remain calm, which was not easy, while I was awaiting trial.*

*"Having already gone through a difficult*

*divorce in Fairfax County, I have had several attorneys in the past, and none have come close to James in terms of their knowledge, determination, honesty and results. James Abrenio is the best attorney I have ever had.*

*"So in closing, I want to answer the question that many of us (hundreds every year in Fairfax County alone) might ask in a situation like mine. 'What can you do?' The answer is simple: you call James Abrenio!"*

Want to leave us a review of your own? Go to [www.RateTheFirm.com](http://www.RateTheFirm.com) to give us a Google review, or check us out on [www.Avvo.com](http://www.Avvo.com) and [www.SuperLawyers.com](http://www.SuperLawyers.com).

Thanks to you, BenGlassLaw now has **more positive client reviews and lawyer endorsements on Avvo.com than any lawyer in Virginia!**

So, keep those reviews coming, because every one you write makes us a better law firm and better servants of the people of Virginia. ■

*Ben*

**P.S. I keep getting asked about my free books, and I love to give them away so much that I've streamlined the entire process. You've gotta go to [www.FreeLegalBooks.com](http://www.FreeLegalBooks.com) and see what we've done there; it's pretty darn cool.**

## Reminder About Our Firm's Communication Policy

Our promise to you is that while we are working on your case, we don't take inbound phone calls, faxes or emails. Ben Glass takes no inbound unscheduled phone calls whatsoever. It makes him much more productive and helps get your case resolved faster. You can always call the office at 703-544-7876, and schedule an in-person or phone appointment, usually within 24-48 hours. This is a lot better than the endless game of "phone tag" played by most businesses today. Remember, too, that email is "quick," but is checked no more than twice a day. Replies are then scheduled into the calendar. So if it's really important, don't email—call the office instead.

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and small business issues. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

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## How to do College the Right Way

*With so many students heading off to college this month, it's time we passed on some actual nuts-and-bolts wisdom to the next generation.*

These kids are going to run our businesses and governments some day, and let's just say their Twitter feeds aren't giving me a whole lot of optimism. You know me, though - time spent whining is better spent solving the problem. So, without further ado, here are my battle-tested tips for doing college the RIGHT way.

### **Don't be "Just a Student"**

You hear all the time about billionaires and multi-millionaires who quit college to start their businesses. It's easy to scoff at that and say, "Well, they're geniuses; that's not for everybody. Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg are special." While it's true that quitting college isn't for everybody, the **entrepreneurial spirit** employed by these men and women *is* for everybody! You need to approach the world with the attitude that there

are opportunities all around you and you are not afraid of failure.

Find part-time work that doesn't sound like every other job on Craigslist. Work for a small company that's growing fast. Better yet, start your *own* enterprise in an area you're passionate about. I know one student in Fairfax Station who pays for a big chunk of his tuition at Virginia Tech through his shoe-resale business. There's a group of students at William and Mary who started a photography project similar to the Humans of New York exhibit that exploded last year. If you really want an example of a student who is doing college right, check out Drew Bonner at the University of Virginia, whom we did an interview with back when he was in high school. Despite suffering from Duchenne muscular dystrophy, which

has put him in a wheelchair since age 14, Drew ran the UVa baseball team's video scouting department.

So, branch out and find something that will teach you how to work with people, how to run an organization, and how to become an influencer in your community. In other words, if you're at college to be "just a student" and nothing else, that's how the job market will see you when you get out.

### **Manage Your Time**

**First of all, you have to make a commitment right now to go to class.** Even if you were a straight-A high school student who got up at 6 a.m. every day, life is different in college. You need to decide how you want to