



BENGIE BEAR Summer Contest Winners!

A huge thank you to everyone who made submissions to our summer Bengie Bear contest! Bengie got to fulfill his dream of travelling the world, but he's glad to be back home in good ol' Virginia. We'll definitely have the contest again next year. It was a ton of fun and we loved seeing our Facebook feed fill up with pictures of Bengie out on adventures.

Each winner will receive a \$100 gift card from BenGlassLaw! Without further ado, the winners are...

MOST RELAXING: Katie Hogan

The whole office is in love with Bengie in his little flippers. From Katie herself: "Bengie Bear has had an exciting summer with our family! He joined us at our family reunion at Marvel Resort in Gore, Oklahoma, and on Tenkiller Lake. So much fun, adventure and R&R!" We're not going to say we're jealous of Bengie... but we're super jealous.

MOST UNEXPECTED: Stephen Austin



Who knew Bengie could run the Race 13.1 Half Marathon in Raleigh, North Carolina?! Thank you to Stephen and his family for including Bengie in this awesome event. All those CrossFit sessions with Ben are really paying off for Bengie!

MOST "DANGEROUS:" Marcia Lynch

Oh, no! Bengie has had a skiing accident (impressive considering the heatwaves this

year). Not sure if it's a personal injury case or a product liability case; seems like Bengie accepted some risks when he chose to ski that fresh powder. In the second picture, Bengie is hoping to have a conversation with one of his forebears, but it could get dangerous quickly!



In this issue...

- **Page 3** BGL's Best Bites: Sharon's Lemony Orzo-Veggie Salad with Chicken
- **Page 3** Important: We've Moved to a Brand New Office Space!
- **Page 4** Why Were My Social Security Benefits Denied?

WHY MOST MEDICAL MALPRACTICE VICTIMS NEVER RECOVER A DIME

The Ultimate Guide to Medical Malpractice Cases in Virginia

In this free book, Ben Glass shares what he has learned about fighting insurance companies for over 30 years. Medical malpractice cases in Virginia can be expensive, lengthy and risky. Virginia is a very pro-doctor state, so winning your medical malpractice case requires a lot of strategic planning and an experienced attorney. This book reveals:



- **Why catastrophic injury is not necessarily malpractice**
- **How your insurance company may try to take your entire recovery**
- **How medical malpractice law works in Virginia, and much, much more...**

To receive your free copy, call BenGlassLaw at 703-584-7277.

—continued on page 2

—continued from page 4

Why Were My Social Security Benefits Denied?

rulings. For example, your doctor and the SSA may agree that you can no longer do construction work. However, the SSA may say that you are still medically able to do office work. If that is the case, you can be denied benefits because they believe you can still do some type of work. Whether or not you will be denied depends upon your physical and mental abilities, your work over the past 15 years, your age, and your education.

While your doctor's medical opinion is taken into consideration, it is not the doctor's decision as to whether you receive disability benefits. In fact, if a doctor submits a letter to the SSA that says, "My patient is disabled," that letter is not going to be helpful in your claim for Social Security Disability benefits. That decision is made either by an administrative law judge or a Social Security claims examiner. A claims examiner is a trained professional who looks over each claim at the initial application stage and at the reconsideration level of appeal.

Beware: Most Initial Disability Applications Are Denied

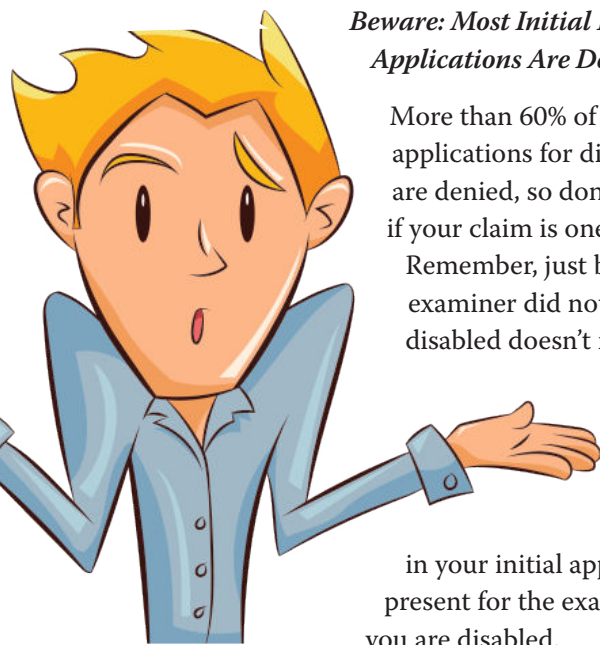
More than 60% of initial applications for disability benefits are denied, so don't be discouraged if your claim is one of them.

Remember, just because the examiner did not agree you were disabled doesn't mean that you aren't qualified to receive benefits. It only means the evidence

in your initial application was not present for the examiner to rule that you are disabled.

After your initial denial, it makes sense to get an experienced Social Security Disability attorney involved with your case. At BenGlassLaw, we track down important medical records that the Social Security Administration may not have to make sure that all factors are taken into consideration when giving a ruling on your claim.

If your Social Security application was denied, call our office today at 703-584-7277. We're ready to walk you through the process and we want to make sure that the government views your case as fairly as humanly possible. ■



—continued from page 1

Bengie Bear Summer Contest Winners

MOST EXOTIC: Ashley Pho

We love these photos! We've got Bengie smelling a flower at the Buffalo Gap National Grassland in South Dakota, and Bengie taking in the breathtaking views of Badlands National Park in South Dakota. Bengie



can't stop talking about how beautiful it was. We thought this was a shoe-in for furthest from Virginia, but...



FURTHEST FROM VIRGINIA: Ed Linz

Bengie is keeping it cool in Ragusa, Sicily! This goes beyond Bengie's wildest dreams for how far he'd make it this summer. When he heard Ed was going to Sicily, let's just say Bengie made him an offer he couldn't refuse...



A huge thank you to everyone who participated. We plan to bring back the contest next year! Don't forget that this is your last month to enter our Redskins tickets drawing. All current VIP members are automatically entered. Not a VIP member? Become a free VIP member at www.BenGlassLawVIP.com. ■

BGL's Best Bites



SHARON'S LEMONY ORZO-VEGGIE SALAD WITH CHICKEN



This orzo and chicken salad can be served as a main dish or as an appetizer. Chopped veggies and herbs tossed with a tangy lemon dressing is great for leftover chicken or even a rotisserie chicken.

Ingredients

- ¾ cups uncooked orzo
- ¼ tsp grated lemon rind
- 3 TBS fresh lemon juice
- 1 TBS extra-virgin olive oil
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp fresh minced garlic
- ½ tsp honey
- 1/8 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1/ cup shredded skinless chicken
- ½ cup English cucumber, diced
- ½ cup red bell pepper, diced
- ¼ - ½ cup fresh dill, chopped (depending on your preference)
- Feta cheese - to taste

Directions:

- 1 Cook orzo according to package directions; do not add salt or fat. Drain and rinse with cold water and set aside.
- 2 While the orzo cooks, combine the next 7 ingredients (through the black pepper), stirring well with a whisk.
- 3 Drizzle this mixture over the orzo. Add the next 4 ingredients and toss gently to combine.
- 4 Sprinkle with cheese.

This goes great with fresh fruit and crackers as an appetizer. If serving as a meal, grilled asparagus is a great choice. Best served room temperature. ■

Enjoy!

IMPORTANT! We've Moved into a Brand New Office Space!

We're so excited and proud to announce that this month we have officially moved into our new offices! Our phone numbers remain the same. Our new address: **3998 Fair Ridge Drive, Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22033**

Keep an eye out next month for pictures and stories of the big move. We've been serving the community for 23 years and this new space will enable us to do an even better job of providing free education for injured Virginians and helping them make the best legal decisions possible for their situations, even if that means they don't need an attorney.

The new office includes a 40+ person training center, video conferencing, a video studio, and much, much more. that we want to share with the community. You know us, we don't like to do things the way most other law firms do them. We want every client who walks through our doors to feel welcomed, comfortable, and full of positivity about the path they've chosen with us.

BenGlassLaw is growing and it's thanks to all of our friends and families who support us by reading the newsletter, getting our free books, and sending injured folks our way. If you see someone on social media who has been in a car accident or had an insurance claim denied, let them know that Ben Glass can help! Keep a lookout for our Open House announcement! ■

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.

3998 Fair Ridge Drive Suite 250
Fairfax, VA 22033
tel 703.991.2870 fax 703.783.0686
www.BenGlassLaw.com

To be removed from our mailing list,
call 800.224.1482 ext 999



*What are the benefits of
our VIP Program? Visit
BenGlassLawVIP.com
to find out!*

Inside This Issue...

- » Bengie Bear Summer Contest Winners
- » BGL's Best Bites:
Sharon's Lemony Orzo-Veggie Salad
with Chicken
- » IMPORTANT! We've Moved to a
Brand New Office Space!
- » And more...

Why Were My Social Security Benefits Denied?

Even if your doctor has told you that you're disabled, the Social Security Administration (SSA) may define "disabled" differently and it's the government's definition that matters when it comes to receiving benefits.

It's likely your doctor defines "disabled" as your being unable to do the job you currently do. You may have been told that you can't return to work because of your medical condition.

The Social Security Administration has a very strict definition of the word "disabled." When the SSA says you must be "disabled" to get benefits, they mean you must have a severe medical impairment(s) that both:

- 1 Prevents you from doing the work you used to do, AND
- 2 Prevents you from doing any other type of work

This second point is a key difference between your doctor's opinion and the SSA's

—continued on page 2





Matt Glass is excited to be studying business at Virginia Tech.

How Should the Parents of High Schoolers Be Thinking about College?

Last month, we sent our 6th child off to our 6th Virginia public university. That's right, we have shirts from the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, William

& Mary, Christopher Newport University, George Mason University and James Madison University! I'm still waiting for Governor Northam to send me a plaque! Maybe he's waiting to see where my other kids end up!

My kids who have graduated include a lawyer, a teacher, a pastor and an Army veteran. Some of them loved the schools they went to, others not so much. One told me recently that he thinks that for some classes he never bought a textbook!

So, I'm speaking with some experience-based authority here (and I'm sure I'll rankle some).

- There's a place for everyone here in Virginia and where you go to college will have very little effect on your long-term happiness, so stop spending so much time fretting about which one. (Ouch!)
- Stop pressuring your kids to take so many AP and IB courses. Sure, you can get credit for college, but who's graduating in less than four years anyway? Less than 1%, I suspect.
- It's OK to not know, at age 17-18, what you want to "be" for the rest of your life, but it's not OK to go off to college like it's 13th grade. Governmental policies have driven the cost of a four-year education through the roof. Get something for every dollar you and your family are investing. College is not the path for everyone.
- The best course you could take in high school would be a course on **How to Really Study**. College is a different game. This would include a time-management component.
- The second and third best courses would be:
 - ◆ **Real life money.** I am flabbergasted that so many kids going off to college have no clue about bank accounts, investing, contracts and basic insurance.
 - ◆ **How to be successful at anything you choose to be successful at.** As far as I can tell, no one is teaching this in high school. Sorry, but spending even one second knowing which Indian Tribes lived where (and when) in Virginia is not preparing students for today's world. ■

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR READERS

There is not a week that goes by that someone doesn't stop me at church or at a sporting event and thank me for what we write about in this newsletter. People tell me that they find the articles interesting, post them on their refrigerators and send parts of it away to kiddos at college. Folks tell me that they like hearing what I have to say in this insert, in particular, even if they don't always agree with my views. That's cool. I think that most newsletters from law firms don't get read at all because they are boring.

In a time where most of the stuff that shows up in your mailbox is nothing but pure advertising, we try not to be boring. (And, yes, we do want you to call us first with any legal need. We'd be more than happy to direct you to the right lawyer if you need a lawyer and we can't help you.)

Finally, if you have not joined our Ben Glass Law VIP program, you should do so (BenGlassLawVIP.com). Benefits include:

- Free Family and Small Business Contract Review – know what you have agreed to!
- Free Insurance Policy Review – we are unbiased and do not sell insurance!
- Free Notary Service – no more waiting in lines at the bank!
- Free 15-Minute Legal Consultation – We say "15 minutes," but folks who have used this service know we are very generous with our time!
- Dedicated VIP Hotline for Members – Jump to the head of the line! ■

WHAT WOULD BEN SAY?

Here is a rundown of my thoughts for the month on things that were in the news. Disagree? Let us know. We'd love to have an on-camera discussion with you in our new video studio.

Here's our "What Would Ben Say" for this month:

- **Apple valued at \$1 billion!** – No accident. Continue to give consumers what they want. Do I care that a lot of their stuff is built in China or even that the wages paid in China are "low" by our standards? Nope. Apple should be free to run its business the way it sees fit. Consumers are free to choose to buy or not buy. Also, when we look at the wages that a company is paying to workers overseas, the correct comparison is NOT to American wages, but to the alternative wage that the workers could earn right now in their own countries.
- **Trade and Tariff Wars.** Stupid, stupid, stupid. All actions have consequences and imposing tariffs like we are can only hurt most Americans. A free and open market is the answer to the world's problems. Disagree? Come on in and let's discuss "on the air."
- **Nike and Colin Kaepernick** – Nike can do whatever they want with the stuff they sell. They should be answering only to shareholders, not the mass media. My view is that this is a well-thought out plan by Nike and they would not be promoting him if they didn't think this would add to their bottom line.
- **Serena Williams' conduct at the U.S. Open.** In soccer, if you call the referee a "thief," you are heading to the locker room. If the men "get away with it even worse," then tennis has a major problem on its hands. Respect for officials in all sports is at an all-time low in youth sports (which is where we are developing our future citizens). If you are a parent of a youth athlete, set a good example!
- **Podcast to listen to:** Ben Shapiro interviewing Dave Rubin. These two disagree on a bunch of serious issues, but they have an enlightened conversation. TURN OFF MAINSTREAM MEDIA. It's useless and divisive. These guys and gals doing long-form podcasts are where all the intelligent listeners are going. Trust me. You won't be disappointed. ■



Shout Out to Pretty Pets Master Certified Grooming and Doggy Day Care Facility on Richmond Highway in Alexandria. Thanks for inviting Leah into your place of business both during the school year and over the

summer. She learned a lot about the business (and how to wash dogs!) from you. If anyone needs a great groomer for their dog, give these folks a call. They are located in Alexandria and their website is PrettyPetsInc.com or you can call them at 703-799-4700.



ATTENTION: COMMUNITY GROUPS

By the time you read this newsletter, we will have moved into our new 8,000 square foot offices. Inside those offices, we have built a state-of-the-art meeting room/training space that will seat up to 45 people. Need space for a community meeting? Reach out to us for details. ■



BENGIE BEAR CAN'T WAIT TO GIVE YOU A TOUR OF THE NEW OFFICES!!!

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 insert may be freely copied and distributed as long as the insert is copied in its entirety.