



# LAW OFFICE OF KENNETH E. BERGER, LLC

DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

## SAFETY FIRST, JUSTICE ALWAYS



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## Reflect To Look Ahead

BY KENNETH BERGER

I love the holidays. Most people are in a good mood. Some insurance companies are looking to take money off their books. There are plenty of excuses to eat too much, and I have yet another reason to provide gifts to my loved ones. Even the air feels lighter and crisper around the holidays.

No matter your faith, the end of one year also provides an opportunity to both reflect and look forward. Our office closes between Christmas and New Year's, in part because I like to go somewhere warm. Of equal importance is the fact that our time away permits us to examine where we have been and where we want to go. Our future

course can only be defined by the decisions and actions we take in the present. So how will you spend your holidays? What path will you decide for yourself?

As we approach 2015 – and with it the end of our 4th year as a firm – I am reminded of a conversation I had December 31, 2010. I was excited about the night, what this firm could be, and the people we would help. With every passing year, my faith, gratitude, and desire to be of service grow. I hope all of you find similar inspiration. Likewise, I wish you a wonderful holiday season and many blessings in the coming year.

DISCLAIMER: ANY RESULT I MAY ACHIEVE ON BEHALF OF ONE CLIENT IN ONE MATTER DOES NOT NECESSARILY INDICATE SIMILAR RESULTS CAN BE OBTAINED FOR OTHER CLIENTS. IN ADDITION, SOME OF THESE RESULTS WERE OBTAINED IN CONNECTION WITH OTHER FIRMS. I AM A SOUTH CAROLINA INJURY LAWYER, NOT A MIRACLE WORKER. I EVALUATE EVERY CASE ON ITS OWN MERITS AND ONLY ACCEPT A LIMITED NUMBER OF NEW CASES EVERY YEAR.



# A Family's First Christmas in Three Years

Ms. Smith injured her left knee when she fell from a work truck. Her employer's insurance company originally denied coverage based on a degenerative condition in Ms. Smith's Knee.

While it is true that Ms. Smith met with an orthopaedist 8 months before her work injury, she repeatedly affirmed that shortly after that visit her pain subsided. By the time of the accident, Ms. Smith had regained normal left knee function.

The treating orthopaedist, Christopher Mazoue (*one of USC's team doctors*), addressed those issues, stating that Ms. Smith's work-related accident caused acute changes in the left knee. The questionnaire also confirmed Dr. Mazoue's belief that arthroscopic surgery, injections and anti-inflammatory medications were necessary if Ms. Smith was to recover.

When the surgery was finally approved by workers' comp, it revealed bone spurs and swelling consistent with trauma. After undergoing surgery, Ms. Smith engaged in physical therapy, home exercises, and follow-up care with Dr. Mazoue.

The case ended – and Ms. Smith gained closure – when medical treatment was completed and the insurance company chose to pay a confidential amount.

Our client thanked us with a big hug and several referrals. *After the workers' settlement was reached, Ms. Smith was able to have Christmas for her children for the first time in three years.*



## REXY'S RECIPES: PUPPY CHOW

*via allrecipes.com*

### Ingredients:

- 1/2 CUP OF BUTTER
- 1 CUP CREAMY PEANUT BUTTER
- 2 CUPS MILK CHOCOLATE CHIPS
- 1 (17.5 OZ) PACKAGE CRISPY CORN AND RICE CEREAL
- 1 POUND CONFECTIONERS' SUGAR



### Directions:

1. MELT THE PEANUT BUTTER WITH THE BUTTER OR MARGARINE AND THE MILK CHOCOLATE CHIPS.
2. POUR OVER THE CEREAL AND TOSS UNTIL WELL COATED.
3. PLACE THE COATED CEREAL IN A LARGE PAPER SACK. THEN ADD THE CONFECTIONERS' SUGAR.
4. FOLD DOWN THE TOP OF THE BAG AND SHAKE TO COAT.

*Prep Time: Cook Time: Servings:*

20 MINS 10 MINS 3 POUNDS

## THE BEST AMONG US: DOWARD HARVIN

Doward Harvin is one of Kenny's former classmates, and one of our favorite attorneys. After law school, Mr. Harvin returned to his hometown and began practicing with Senator Ronnie Saab. Mr. Harvin then went into solo practice, working hard to build a practice and make his community better.

He is active in the Hemingway, SC community and the surrounding area. Mr. Harvin is a frequent speaker at local schools and churches. A true believer in justice, he puts principle ahead of his own interest. Much of Mr. Harvin's practice focuses on family law, but he also handles cases in other legal fields, such as real estate law, employment law and criminal law.



# FIRM SNAPSHOT: RUN FOR THOUGHT

On November 8, the Brain Injury Association of South Carolina (BIASC) hosted its 7th annual Run for Thought. The event encouraged South Carolinians to lace up their favorite pair of sneakers and raise awareness of brain injury in the Greenville community.

"This was a great year," said BIASC Executive Director, Joyce Davis. "There were more survivors and families participating than ever before."

One of those brain injury survivors is a young man named Lucky, who also served as a spokesperson for the event. Lucky's family had received emotional support from the BIASC while their loved one underwent rehabilitation.

"Lucky wanted to raise awareness and funds for the BIASC, so he could help support the organization who supported him and his family," Davis added.

Lucky's hopes were fulfilled, as the event raised nearly \$23,000 with even higher hopes for next year's run. As a bronze sponsor of the BIASC, we would like to thank everyone who participated and gave.



**WE WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILING FACES...  
& MAKE A DONATION IN YOUR NAME**

There would be no reason for a newsletter if it wasn't for you and your referrals. We cannot put in words how much we appreciate you. As a show of gratitude, we would like to feature you in our next newsletter or on social media. All you have to do is send Alivia ([alivia@bergerlawsc.com](mailto:alivia@bergerlawsc.com)) a photo of yourself in your "KB" shirt or enjoying coffee from your law office mug, and *we'll not only share your picture but also make a donation to a charity of your choice.*

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## Tis' the Season for Safety BY ALIVIA TROXELL

To ensure a safe and happy holiday season, here are three tips to keep in mind while you celebrate this special time of the year with the people you love.

### 1. Plan ahead if you intend to drink at a holiday gathering.

Buzzed driving is drunk driving, so don't do it. It's okay if you choose to enjoy a drink, but arrange for a ride home with a sober friend, call a cab, or utilize Uber, a free app for your smartphone. Planning ahead reduces the chance of an impulse, alcohol-induced decision. It can also save your life and potentially someone else's.

### 2. Be aware of slippery surroundings, especially when it comes to your children.

It's not often that South Carolina experiences snow, but temperatures do drop low enough to produce ice. Drive with extra caution on the roads after it has rained and be on the lookout for black ice. This proves true for all outdoor activities. When the kids go out to play, remind them of how slippery the sidewalks or playground equipment may be.

### 3. Traveling during the holidays is nearly impossible to avoid, so know your limits.

Driving for hours on end with little to no sleep is a frequent cause of wrecks. If you're too tired to drive, spend the money on a hotel and live to drive another day. Taking turns behind the wheel every couple hours also helps keep drivers fresh. Stopping for a little fresh air and a cup of coffee is another option. No matter what you choose, please put safety first.



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## December 2014 Newsletter

### From Intern to Part of the Family

BY ALIVIA TROXELL

As my senior year nears its end at the University of South Carolina, it amazes me how quickly time flies. After having an epiphany my junior year and changing my major to public relations, I was worried about getting a job with the little experience I had, but remained hopeful. Then as if it were an act of fate, I was led to the Law Office of Kenneth E. Berger, LLC.

A friend recommended that I apply for a marketing internship at the firm, and insisted that it was a perfect fit for me. She was right. I started here three months ago, but it feels like yesterday. Ever since my first day on the job, I have been treated not like an intern, but as part of the family.

If someone were to ask me what kind of person Kenny is, I would answer something along the lines of "Well, take a look at his bulldog, Rex." My mom taught me that you could tell a lot about a person by the way they treat their pets, and if you don't think Rex is treated like royalty, then you're mistaken.

Everyone here has a huge heart. It's never about them, but rather what they can do for others. Despite busy schedules, they never rush a conversation with a client; they truly listen to people's needs. This firm's work ethic and community efforts are even more admirable, and it goes without question that if I were ever to encounter a life-changing situation, Kenny would be the guy I called for help.

Although my future is uncertain, I look forward to making the absolute most out of my internship. One year ago, I was questioning what I wanted to do in life, but after working with this team, there is no doubt that I made the right decision. Kenny is shaping me into a polished public relations professional, and I wouldn't be as confident in my abilities had it not been for him. I will forever be thankful for the experience I've had working here, and good thing for me – it's not over yet!



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