



# LAW OFFICE OF KENNETH E. BERGER, LLC

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

## SAFETY FIRST JUSTICE ALWAYS



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## “Want a Great Answer? Ask a Great Question.”

BY KENNETH BERGER

I was in Atlanta a few weeks ago for a workshop on depositions. We spent the better part of two days studying and practicing how to ask great questions in order to get great responses. The workshop was good, but the best question I heard during my time in Atlanta had nothing to do with the law.

After the first day of the course, I was making my way through the hotel lobby toward the elevators. I then saw a banner for “corporate coaching and team building.” I didn’t think much of it, as there are more snake oil salesman than true coaches in that field. However, as I was waiting for the elevator, I heard someone ask, “What’s the best thing you’ve done today?” The guy asking the

question was one of these corporate coaches, and though I still didn’t have much interest in signing myself or my team up for a course, I thought his question was ingenious. I told him the best thing I’d done that day was gain knowledge from other lawyers, which would in turn allow me to help a lot of people.

When I got home, I started asking friends the same question, and each time received a great response. While the best deposition questions tend to be the ones that make the answer meaningless because no matter what the witness says, you have already won, perhaps the most important question I’ve heard in a long time is the same one I now ask you, “What is the best thing you’ve done today?”

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.

## Empowering Our State's Youth

BY ALIVIA TROXELL

Earlier this year, 100s of South Carolina middle-schoolers arrived at Edventure Children's Museum for its daylong, "Be A Boss Youth Summit." The event aimed to empower young people, while teaching them how to overcome personal hardships.

Judi Gatson of WIS News moderated the event and led workshop sessions with Chef Jeff Hendersen from the show, "Flip My Food," and a handful of local leaders. Among the panelists, our very own, Kenny Berger, shared stories about adversity he faced growing up and the steps he took to rise above those challenges.

The kids asked Kenny and the other panelists lots of questions not only about what they do, but why they do it. Again and again, the panelists discussed the need for passion and self-honesty when pursuing your career. The importance of dreaming big dreams, then chasing them until they became your reality was also emphasized. Unsurprisingly, the panelists probably learned as much, if not more, from the children than the kids learned from them.

The other panel members, included: Dr. Myriam Torres of the Arnold School of Public Health; Kevin Rasberry, Executive Director of Garden City Preparatory Academy for Boys; Tia Brewer-Footman, State Commissioner for Minority Affairs; Elisabeth Hovacs, Workforce Development Manager of SC Department of Commerce; and Effy Francis, EQUIP Leader of ABLE SC.

Thank you to all of the attendees, co-panelists, and everyone at Edventure, for letting us be part of the "Be A Boss Youth Summit."



## REXY'S RECIPES: TURKEY BASKETBALL SLIDERS

*via Hungry Happenings*

### Ingredients:

- 12 SMALL DINNER ROLLS
- ORANGE FOOD COLORING SPRAY
- LIQUID BLACK FOOD COLORING
- 12 SLICES BLACKENED TURKEY BREAST
- 12 SLICES PROVOLONE CHEESE
- 1 CUP CARAMELIZED ONIONS
- 1 CUP ROASTED RED PEPPERS, JULIENNED
- ¼ CUP FIERY CHIPOTLE GOURMAISE



### Directions:

1. PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 DEGREES F. SPRAY ROLLS WITH ORANGE FOOD COLORING. USE A FINE TIP PAINT BRUSH (NEW OR FOOD USE ONLY) TO PAINT BASKETBALL LINES ON EACH ROLL USING BLACK FOOD COLORING.
2. BAKE ROLLS FOR 15-20 MINUTES UNTIL GOLDEN BROWN. ALLOW TO COOL FOR AT LEAST 5 MINUTES.
3. CUT OPEN DINNER ROLLS AND PLACE BOTH HALVES CUT SIDE UP ON BAKING SHEET. ON BOTTOM HALF ARRANGE ONE SLICE OF BLACKENED TURKEY BREAST, ONE SLICE OF PROVOLONE CHEESE, AND A HEAPING TABLESPOON OF BOTH CARAMELIZED ONIONS AND ROASTED RED PEPPERS.
4. HEAT SLIDERS IN A 350 DEGREE F OVEN UNTIL CHEESE MELTS.
5. SMEAR FIERY CHIPOTLE GOURMAISE ON THE TOP SIDE OF THE DINNER ROLL AND SET ON TOP OF THE SANDWICH. SERVE HOT.

## THE BEST AMONG US: FRED TOLER

Over the years, our firm has relied on Blue Oak Networks for our IT needs. Blue Oak's CEO, Fred Toler (pictured left), began his IT career as the "go figure it out" guy.

"I would get sent to a company that was having an unusual issue or problem," Fred explained. "My manager used to say, 'Send Fred and tell him to go figure it out and get it running.'"

After gaining experience and insight with the manufacturing industry, Fred created Blue Oak Networks in 2013. He wanted Blue Oak to be different than any other IT company in its market – where success is measured by whether or not it has helped people do their job better.

"When I look back over the span of my relationships [with employees, customers and partners], I want to know that I played a part in helping them achieve their goals," Fred explained. To learn more about Blue Oak Networks or how it can best serve you, call (803) 724-5500 or email [solutions@blueoakit.com](mailto:solutions@blueoakit.com).



# FIRM SNAPSHOT: SHUCK-A-RAMA OYSTER ROAST

On February 7, 2016, there was no shortage of food or great times at the Brain Injury Association of SC's fifth annual Shuck-A-Rama. Despite the rain, more than 200 people from across the state traveled to the Brick House Kitchen in James Island to show their support. Attendees gathered at oyster shucking tables, under tents and around fireplaces to eat, drink and share laughs. Throughout the day, three local bands, Graham Whorley, Rescue Blues, and Sunflowers and Sin, graced the audience with live performances.

All proceeds from the oyster roast went to sustaining the BIASC's education, awareness, research and prevention of brain injury across South Carolina. Additionally, the BIASC hosted a toiletry drive to help families whose lives are displaced when a loved one faces long term hospitalization. There is still time to contribute to the drive. For drop off details, call **(803) 731-9823** today.



## Brain Injuries in South Carolina and The Need For Medical Evidence

BY KENNETH BERGER

When someone in South Carolina suffers a brain injury – be it from a fall, car crash, or object striking them in the head – they are often told it is only a concussion, and that their symptoms should clear up in a couple weeks. In many instances, negative results on a CT scan or basic MRI lead a neurologist to discharge the patient, even though “subjective complaints” persist.

What are “subjective complaints?” They are the list of problems someone with a head injury is complaining of despite the “normal” test results. For instance, you may have headaches, or trouble concentrating, remembering events surrounding the accident, or keeping your balance in the dark. You tell the doctor about these issues, but he responds that you are simply experiencing post-concussive syndrome and should be fine in no less than a couple months.

When you return to his/her office a few months later with many of the same issues, the doctor focuses on the areas of improvement rather than your symptoms. Additionally, he/she reminds you that your CT, MRI, and maybe even EEG all came back normal, and that you should focus on getting well rather than worrying over problems that should have already resolved. Some doctors might even note

that your issues are unexplainable.

When doctors dismiss TBI patients' complaints without further investigating the cause of the problems, they are doing patients and families a disservice. Negative MRIs and CT scans do not prove the absence of a brain injury. When patients remain symptomatic, there are stronger, better, and more advanced tests that can be performed. For instance, there is more than one type of MRI. There are in fact tests that reveal whether a patient has sustained damage to the axons (i.e. the brain's power lines). These advanced images can provide “objective medical evidence” of a TBI, which in turn lets patients know why they are experiencing problems. Likewise, objective medical evidence goes a long way toward helping family members understand the reasons their loved one has struggled since the accident.

No one wants to suffer head trauma in an accident; nor do they want to be told “everything looks fine” when they know they are anything but fine. Brain injuries do not have to be the medical equivalent to the dark side of the moon in South Carolina. As doctors become more willing to treat TBIs with the respect and attention they demand, I believe we will see better testing, better treatment, and better results.

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# CLIENT REVIEW:

5.0 ★★★★★

via Google

BY JIM M. OF AUDUBON, NJ

“My experience with everyone at the Law Office of Kenneth Berger, LLC was absolutely excellent. I would recommend them to anyone with a case that falls within their range. Kenneth and everyone at the office are always friendly, caring, and helpful. *During my entire case, I felt as though I could not have been in better hands. They all worked tirelessly toward the best results possible.* I cannot thank them enough for all they did.”

NOTE: THIS PUBLICATION IS INTENDED TO EDUCATE THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT PERSONAL INJURY, CIVIL LITIGATION AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION ISSUES. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PUBLICATION IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. EVERY CASE IS DIFFERENT. THE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER MAY BE FREELY COPIED AND REDISTRIBUTED AS LONG AS THE NEWSLETTER IS COPIED IN ITS ENTIRETY.



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