



HERRMAN & HERRMAN

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## A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

### MEET INTAKE SPECIALIST LEAD LALI GARCIA

**A**s the lead Intake Specialist, there is a lot that can happen over the course of my day. There's a lot that goes on behind the scenes at the firm that most people don't get to see.

We, as Intake Specialists, are here to help. It's about keeping things running smoothly for the firm, clients, and potential clients. We have a very hands-on approach within the firm that enables us to ensure that everyone knows what is going on. It also helps to manage our clients and those seeking legal help to give each individual the attention they need.

I've been with the firm for just over a year now, and the experience has been nothing but great. There is a very positive vibe around the office. Management is great, the team is great, and they all come together to create this amazing office environment. Everyone is approachable and friendly, which helps to keep everyone in the loop. This makes my job easier, and I know it makes everyone else's job easier as well.

It really makes coming into work each day a pleasure. I'm always looking forward to having a productive day and getting clients the help they need.



When I'm not in the office, I really enjoy a good game of softball — playing, that is! I also have a high-school-age son who plays baseball and will always go out to support him when I can. As a mom of four kids, one of whom is already out of the house, I value the time I have with them before they go out into the world on their own. Speaking of which, my daughter will be visiting this summer and I am looking forward to spending time with her before she heads off once again.

*-Lali Garcia*

## WHEN POLITICS GOES TO THE DOGS

### 6 DOG MAYORS FROM AROUND THE US



Most towns and cities around the country play it safe: They elect humans to hold political office. But a few towns decided to do something a little different. They threw political formality to the wind and elected dogs to office. Here are a few popular pups from around the country.

**Duke** This Great Pyrenees became one of the most popular pups to hold elected office. He first ran for mayor in 2014 in Cormorant Township, Minnesota, and won by a landslide. He's been in the mayoral race every year since then — and he's won every time! Today, Duke is still in office, where he never misses a photo-op or a pat on the head.

**Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller** This golden retriever was first elected to office in 2012 in Idyllwild, California. His election was part of an initiative put together by an organization called Animal Rescue Friends, or ARF. As

part of the election, area residents could nominate their cat or dog for mayor. During the inaugural event, 14 dogs and two cats ran for mayor, with Max leading the pack. Max was elected to a second term in 2013, but soon passed away after a battle with cancer. Thankfully, his successor was quickly appointed: Maximus Mighty-Dog Mueller II.

**Brynneth Pawltro, Lucy Lou, Junior Cochran, and Goofy Borneman.** These four dogs all hail from Rabbit Hash, Kentucky. Back in 1998, the people of Rabbit Hash decided to elect a dog mayor. That year, Goofy Borneman, a mixed breed, became the first in what would become a continuing tradition. He held the office until 2001, when he passed away at age 16.

In 2004, Junior Cochran, a black Labrador, took on the role of mayor, but his term was plagued by scandal after he spent too much time hanging around the town's general store — and Health and Safety was called. Then, he too died in office in 2008. Later that year, Lucy Lou, a border collie, was elected into office and became the town's first female mayor. The good news is she saw her term through to the end, but she didn't run for a second term. Instead, pitbull Brynneth Pawltro, or Brynn as his friends call him, ran and won. Today, you'll find Brynn roaming Rabbit Hash, staying carefully out of Health and Safety's way.

# LEARNING THAT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE SCHOOL

## MENTALLY STIMULATING ACTIVITIES FOR SUMMER

Every summer, parents across the country have to deal with the same delicate problem. They want to make sure their kids continue to learn without feeling like they're being assigned tasks. After all, summer homework is every child's worst nightmare. Luckily, you don't have to rely on math problems and book reports to keep your child's development from taking a two-month vacation. Here are a few mentally stimulating activities that are as educational as they are fun.

### For Little Ones: Homemade Bubbles

Bubbles fascinate young children, so why not spend a day making your own solution and experimenting with different types of bubbles? The formula is simple: 1 part dish soap (Dawn or Joy work best) to 10 parts water. Optionally, you can also include 1/4 part glycerin. The process of making the solution will teach ratios, and finding creative ways to blow bubbles fosters problem-solving skills and creative thinking.

### For Teenagers: Family Dinner Party

Cooking teaches so many important skills: math, science, nutrition, concentration, cultural understanding, following directions, creativity, time management, and more. Even better, it doesn't

feel like learning; it feels like fun. Encourage your older children to take the reins for preparing regular meals throughout the summer. You can pick guiding themes, like "a trip to Mexico" or "pasta party," but let them choose the recipes and prep the meals on their own.

### For the Entire Family: An Educational Field Trip

Field trips always inspire excitement in students, and you'll find the same goes for your family members. You can tailor your destination to the interests of your kids for maximum engagement. If you have a family of art lovers, head to a museum for some inspiration and discussion. Kids who prefer the outdoors will enjoy a nature walk or hike. You can bring along a field guide to identify flora and fauna. These trips may not pack the thrill of a water park, but they're fun in an entirely different way.



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DEPOSITIONS

Let's say your personal injury case becomes a lawsuit. After some time, you will get a call from your attorney asking for a few dates and times to schedule a deposition, which is a necessary part of the lawsuit. But what exactly is a deposition? What do you need to know?

A deposition is a recorded interview you give under oath. A court reporter is present to transcribe the interview, and it may be filmed as well. The attorney representing the other party will ask you questions about your case.

Because you are under oath, everything you say can be used against you in court, so telling the truth is critical. Most good attorneys will have a meeting with you to help you get ready beforehand. They will help you step-by-step.

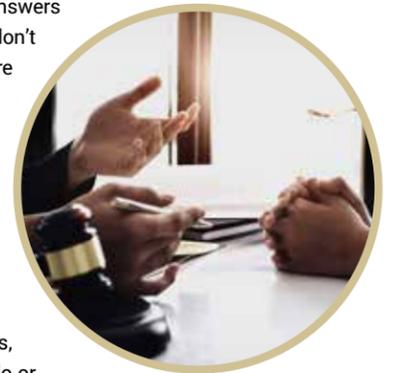
Why are depositions necessary?

The other party has the right to speak with you to get the facts of the incident, including how it occurred and the details of your injuries. This is not the time to tell the story of your case. You want to only answer the questions that are asked and that's it. Don't volunteer

information, and keep your answers short and to-the-point. An "I don't know" is acceptable – you are never required to guess.

Another reason for the deposition is to gauge your credibility as a witness should the case go to trial. Everything is analyzed, from your verbal answers to your body language. Be courteous, since literally anything you do or say can be turned against you and could ultimately damage your case.

The deposition can be quick and painless if you follow these guidelines and those shared by your attorney. If you don't understand a question, ask the other attorney to restate or fix the question. Take your time. Don't rush yourself. You want to make sure you understand the questions before answering and that you are careful with each answer.



## Wastewater Collections Workers Claim They Are Owed for Years of Unpaid On-Call Duty

The Federal Court, Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division has granted conditional certification of a collective action on behalf of City of Corpus Christi wastewater workers who allege they are owed years of on-call pay.

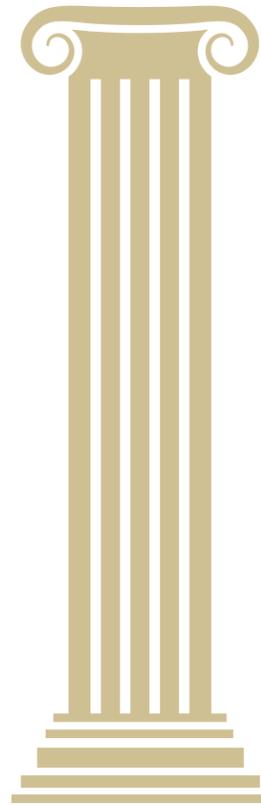
The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, claims that the City of Corpus Christi violated, among other things, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act by failing to pay the hourly wastewater department employees for on-call duties. The lawsuit alleges that the city workers routinely worked more than 40 hours a



week without on-call compensation, contrary to the city's written policy.

The suit seeks unpaid wages and damages for the wastewater department collections division crew members and foremen who were required to be on-call after hours, along with similarly situated employees who choose to join the collective action.

Attorneys on the pleading for the workers are Greg Herrman, Daniel Covich, and Josh Hopkins. According to Herrman, managing partner of Herrman & Herrman Law Firm, "Our clients are engaged in a maximum struggle for their minimum owed wages. These city workers are the backbone of what runs this city and protects its citizens. They ask for nothing more than a fair day's pay for a hard day worked. It's time to put these workers first."



## KIELBASA KABOBS

*This take on the classic Italian sausage and peppers uses fully cooked Polish kielbasa so you can prep the kabobs and bring them to your next cookout.*

### INGREDIENTS

- \* 2 pounds fully cooked smoked kielbasa
- \* 2 large onions
- \* 2 green bell peppers
- \* 3 red bell peppers
- \* 2 cloves garlic, minced
- \* 1/4 cup olive oil
- \* Salt and pepper, to taste

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat grill to medium.
2. In a small bowl, combine oil, garlic, and a pinch of salt and pepper.
3. Cut pepper, onion, and kielbasa into 1-inch chunks.
4. Thread onto skewers, alternating ingredients.
5. Brush with oil mixture and grill, covered, 10–12 minutes.

[NOTE: If using bamboo skewers, soak in water for 30 minutes before threading to prevent burning.]

Inspired by Good Housekeeping

## MEMES

