



HERRMAN & HERRMAN

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HERRMAN & HERRMAN

MAY 2018

# THE HERRMAN HERALD

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## THE MOVING PARTS

### DANIEL COVICH ON THE HOLISTIC NATURE OF LAW

Over my 25-year career in law, I've met a lot of interesting individuals and participated in a number of cases that had far-reaching significance. One of the reasons I pursued a career in law, and something that keeps me focused today, is that I get the opportunity to be the voice for those who otherwise have none.

This manifests in all forms. On a larger scale, in my career before joining Herrman & Herrman, I was an attorney on a major case that went to the federal level. There was a Texas voter ID law that would have potentially prevented upwards of 700,000 people from voting. These are folks who lacked a voter ID, such as a driver's license or U.S. passport. The Fifth Circuit Court found the law discriminatory, and the law was reversed.

In this case, and in others, I've worked closely with the NAACP, an organization I have a deep commitment to. Through this work, I've been recognized by the organization with the Foot Soldier in the Sands Award — an award that honors attorneys who have made significant contributions to the NAACP.

As an attorney, I can be the voice to help get a bad law changed, or to get an injured person the compensation they need. In many ways, law takes a holistic approach to accomplish these goals. There are so many moving parts in legal cases, and we can look at all of those parts or hone in on a very specific one.

One of the great things about being on the Herrman & Herrman team is that one attorney can look at one part, while someone else looks at another. Clients get an incredible amount of attention, and a lot of that comes back to Greg Herrman. I've known Greg for the last 15 years — and been on the team with him for the last year — and I've

seen his commitment to clients in action, time and time again. He believes everyone deserves much more than the world wants to give them.

I admire Greg's laser focus when it comes to taking care of clients. This is a rare attribute of a law firm of this size. You have over a dozen attorneys working together and on individual cases, and yet, that personalized attention continues to shine through. That, in my opinion, makes Greg and the entire firm great role models for law firms at large.

While I have a passion for law, I also have a passion for the great outdoors and hiking. Right now, I'm very much looking forward to my family's annual hiking trip. My family and I pick a spot every summer and head out for several days. It's just us and nature. We have a particular fondness for the Pacific Northwest.

Last year, in fact, I asked my teenage son and daughter where they would rather go: Universal Studios or Seattle to go hiking. Their pick? Hiking! I have to admit, they left me impressed, and I'm certainly not going to complain. This summer we'll be off to an area just outside of Seattle called Tiger Pass. The trails are surrounded by incredibly dense forest. You would never believe a major metropolitan area is just a short drive away. I'm left in awe every time I visit.

*-Daniel Covich*



## BOBBIE THE WONDER DOG'S

### INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

Imagine America in 1923. Yankee Stadium opened its doors for the very first time. Walt and Roy Disney founded The Walt Disney Company. The first issue of Time magazine hit newsstands. President Warren G. Harding died of a heart attack in office, and Vice President Calvin Coolidge became the 30th president. And Bobbie the Wonder Dog trekked 2,550 miles to return home.

Of all the stories to come out of 1923, Bobbie's may be the most incredible. It all started with a road trip. The Brazier family of Silverton, Oregon, decided to take a road trip to visit relatives in Wolcott, Indiana. Mom, Dad, their two daughters, and their Scotch collie piled in the family Overland Red Bird touring car and headed across preinterstate-highway-system America.

Several days later, after the Braziers had settled in with their Wolcott relatives, Bobbie the Scotch collie was attacked by a pack of dogs. The dogs scared Bobbie away, and despite a long search around Wolcott, the family was unable to find any trace of the collie. The search continued throughout their stay, but time ran out, and the Braziers had to return home to Oregon without their beloved Bobbie.

What the Braziers didn't know was that Bobbie had been searching for his family as well. He may have been scared away, but he was determined to get

back home. And so began his incredible journey. He turned his head west and began walking. And walking. With winter setting in, Bobbie had a monumental task ahead.

Bobbie swam across numerous rivers. He trekked across the Great Plains and over the Rocky Mountains. While we will never know exactly what Bobbie endured, we know he made it home. Over 2,500 miles later, in February, 1924, a tired and beaten-down pup arrived home in Silverton, Oregon, to a stunned family.

Bobbie the Wonder Dog's story made national headlines. He received a medal and the key to the city, and he became a silent movie star in the film "The Call of the West." Today, you can visit Bobbie's memorial near his home in Oregon.



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# Hand-Washing vs. Dishwasher

## ARE YOU WASTING WATER, TIME, AND MONEY?

We've all walked into our kitchens, looked at the dishes stacked high in the sink, and asked, "Is it better to throw those in the dishwasher or wash them by hand?" The dishwasher would certainly save you some time, but many people believe that washing dishes by hand uses less water and electricity. In reality, however, washing your dishes by hand is one of the worst things you can do for both the planet and your wallet.

Dishwashers use less water than washing by hand. A study conducted in Europe found that individuals who wash dishes by hand tend to use 27 gallons of water to clean just 12 place settings. Meanwhile, modern dishwashers only use 6 gallons of water, and Energy Star appliances use as little as 4 gallons during their wash cycle. The Environmental Protection Agency determined that using a dishwasher instead of washing by hand can save 5,000 gallons of water and \$40 in utility costs a year.

It's not just about water! Unless you have incredibly thick dishwashing gloves, you can't properly clean your dishes by hand. Dishwashers heat water to around 145 degrees Fahrenheit to ensure your dishes are disinfected. Even if the water from your sink could get that hot, you wouldn't want to stick your hand in it.

Which brings us to the science experiment that is your kitchen sponge. Dr. Philip Tierno, a clinical professor in the microbiology and pathology departments at NYU Langone, determined that your kitchen sponge is the single dirtiest item in your house. Soap and water aren't enough to sanitize your sponge, which is left damp next to your sink after each use. Have you ever noticed that stagnant sponge smell? That's bacteria growing. And when you wash your dishes by hand, you rub that bacteria all over your plates and silverware. Yum.

If you have just a single plate or cup, you obviously don't want to run them through the dishwasher alone; that would be incredibly wasteful. But the drawbacks of washing by hand are too great to ignore. The best option is to wait until your dishwasher is full, then start up the washing cycle. All your dishes will be clean and disinfected, and you'll use less water in the process.



## TESTIMONIALS

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

"Great job, Marina, Julie, and PJ! You were all very professional and attentive to my needs and case. God bless you all!"

-Nichole M.

"Herrman & Herrman helped me with my accident case. They helped me get my treatment and money with no problems. They have a friendly staff and great service."

-Laura T.

"I had the opportunity to work with Steven Stratso and his team. My questions were answered, and my calls were returned immediately. They have helped tremendously in my unfortunate situation. I'm extremely pleased with their work."

-Jen

"Thank you to Will, Gayle, and April for taking care of me and my claim. I would refer anyone who is involved in an accident to Herrman & Herrman."

-Felix

"I highly recommend this law firm's services. They helped me with medical issues, rental issues, and getting me back what I deserved and more. They won't stop fighting until you get what you deserve."

-Klarissa

"They're excellent, outstanding, and on top of the legal profession! I cannot say enough about the Herrman & Herrman law firm. I would highly recommend them to any family and friends who have been injured and need a lawyer. The lawyers are very accessible and walk you through every step of the legal process."

-William L.



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# TEXT AND DRIVE DON'T DO IT!

You're driving and your phone buzzes or beeps. For many people, their first instinct is to look down, taking their eyes (and mind) off the road.

About 60 percent of drivers on the road today text while driving. In 2014, over 3,000 people in the U.S. died because of distracted drivers, with 431,000 recorded injuries. In 2016, there were 109,658 crashes in Texas alone that involved texting and driving. The problem is so bad that many states have implemented laws to punish drivers caught in the act. Last year, Texas passed a bill to curb this issue. Governor Greg Abbott announced the law on June 6, 2017, stating that texting and driving is illegal, making Texas the 47th state to ban the dangerous practice.

The law states that using your phone while driving will result in a fine of \$25-99 for first-time offenders and a fine of \$100-200

for repeat offenders. The law also states that should an accident be the result of texting and driving, and should it result in serious injury or death of someone else, the offender will be charged with a Class A misdemeanor (punishable by a fine that cannot exceed \$4,000 and jail time that cannot exceed 12 months, in addition to any other charges or punishments).



The law banning texting and driving is necessary. It has the potential to save lives and prevent injuries. It encourages drivers to concentrate on the road and the task at hand. Interestingly, in some cities, it is still legal for drivers to use a phone for GPS navigation, music, and dialing numbers; however, texting is the action that's specifically punishable.

The best thing you can do as a driver is silence your phone and keep it out of sight while you drive. Pull over or wait until you arrive at your destination before checking your phone or sending that important text.



## GRILLED SKIRT STEAK WITH ASPARAGUS

*Asparagus and steak is a classic pairing. Skirt steak packs a ton of flavor without the high price point of other cuts, and this is the best time of year to buy asparagus. So what are you waiting for? Let's get grilling!*

### INGREDIENTS

- \* 1 1/2 pounds skirt steak
- \* 2 tablespoons canola oil
- \* 1 pound asparagus
- \* 2 teaspoons crushed red pepper
- \* Salt and pepper to taste
- \* Grated pecorino Romano cheese

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat grill to high. Season room-temperature steak with salt, pepper, and 1 tablespoon oil. Any oil with a high smoke point, such as canola, will work.
2. Trim bottom inch of asparagus. Season with salt, pepper, and remainder of oil.
3. Cut steak into four portions and grill for 3-5 minutes per side, depending on desired doneness. Skirt steak is thin and will cook quickly.
4. Let steak rest for 10 minutes. While it's resting, grill asparagus for 6 minutes, turning once.
5. Sprinkle cheese and crushed red pepper on asparagus. Serve alongside steak.

(Inspired by Food Network)

# MEMES

