

807 West Azele St.  
Tampa, FL 33606

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Celebrating Our Staff  
PAGE 1

The Honey App  
PAGE 2

Client Testimonials  
PAGE 2

Post-Accident Tips  
PAGE 3

The Easiest Homemade Corned Beef  
You've Ever Made  
PAGE 3

Social Media Spring Cleaning  
PAGE 4

# Social Media Spring Cleaning

## When Is It Time to Hit Unfriend?

If you've already finished spring cleaning the garage, why not turn your attention to your online environment? Check out these tips for "spring cleaning" your social media accounts.

### Unfriend Forgotten Contacts

A lot of people joined social media sites to get back in touch with old friends, meaning many friend lists are full of former classmates and other people you probably haven't spoken with in years. If you find yourself struggling to remember who a person is, why have their posts on your feed? Remember, removing someone on social media isn't the same as cleaning them out of your life completely. If they want to reach out, you're still available by phone or email.

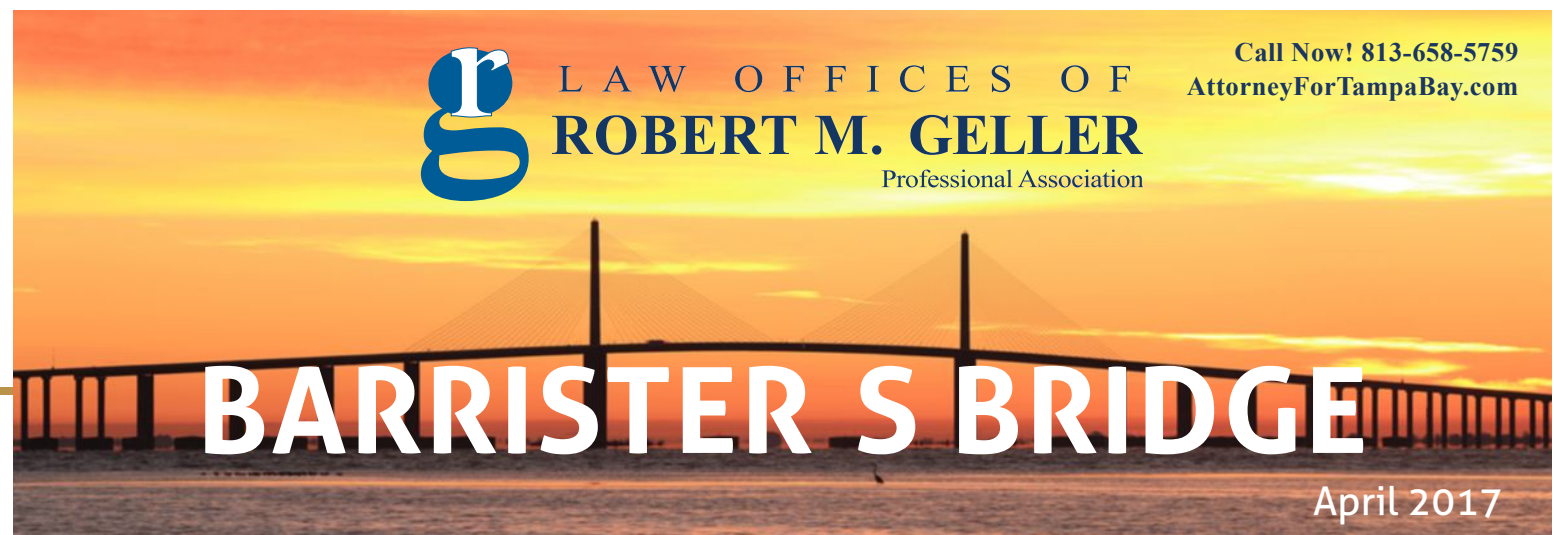
### Unlike Pages

After joining social media, did you get swept up in the fun of liking new pages? Pages for movies, foods, celebrities, or bands — including a few you're really not all that passionate about. It's time to clean out some of these pages. If a show's been off the air for a few years or you've lost interest in a band, you don't need to be seeing their posts anymore. And seriously, you have no reason to have the "Cheese Burgers" Facebook page still liked.

### Clean Up Your Old Posts

Now it's time for some real heavy lifting. Take a *scroll* down your personal page and review your old posts. Is there anything you wouldn't want your kids to see? Or a potential job interviewer? Pictures from a party that got a little out of hand, tagged photos from college, or text rants that don't show you in your best light — these are all things that can go.

Social media is a place for us to connect with friends and family, get our news, and stay in touch with the world around us. Hopefully these tips will help you clear out some cobwebs so you can keep enjoying your digital experience.



# BARRISTER'S BRIDGE

April 2017



## Where Would We Be Without Our Offices? For Great Legal Results, You Need Great Staff

### Is it April already?

I find it hard to believe, yet here we are — a third of the way through 2017! That's what happens when you stay as busy as we do. But when time flies, you can lose track of important things and forget to thank the people who deserve it most. Maybe that's why April 26 is Administrative Professionals day, which used to be known as Secretaries Day.

Although we don't call it that anymore, this lesser-known holiday is still very important. Where would we be without the rest of our office? I have fantastic attorneys that work with me, and I like to think that I'm a pretty good litigator myself. But we're outnumbered 2 to 1 by administrative professionals and office staff in this practice, and without them we'd be totally lost.

You probably won't hear too many business owners say that, but it's true in any industry. A great staff is what makes the difference between success and failure, and the challenges our staff face are unique. They have to be sympathetic and understanding with people who are going through tough times in their lives. They have to keep our systems organized. They have to touch base with each other and the attorneys. They handle confidential material on a daily basis. They have to know a lot about the law. And to top it all off, many of them have to go home and take care of their own families!

They do all of that, and they do it all *well*. If our practice is a team, then we have a lot of good things going on in the locker room. We're a cohesive unit with talented players who know what to do and execute

the plays perfectly and with a smile. Great administrative professionals mean a great office, which in turn generates great results for our clients.

I've seen what happens in a law practice that doesn't have the right staff members, and it's not pretty. That's why I always try to show my appreciation, because believe me — I have it good! We do weekly lunches and catch up and meet, and every once in a while I get the chance to shout them out publicly, like in this edition of the newsletter. So the next time you're in our office, know that you're in good hands — from mine to the ones all the way down the organizational chart.

And, as always, I hope you have a great month.

**Robert Geller**





# Honey

## The App That Puts More Money in Your Pocket

"I flipped through all these coupon books, tabulated the best day to make my purchase based on historical sales data and weather patterns, and then leaped from store to store like a frugal ninja to buy you this backpack for 75 percent off."

Okay, so maybe you didn't grow up with parents quite this frugal, but you know the value of a dollar. Why spend more than you have to?

Fortunately, like many things in this brave new world, frugality is now automatic. All you have to do to save money is add an extension called Honey to your Google

Chrome web browser. It's an application that works with a number of online stores. When you're about to hit checkout, simply click on the Honey button, and you'll see the coupons and sales available for your purchase.

Honey does the hard work of crunching numbers for you, automatically applying the best coupon code so you can sit back and count all the money you saved. On Amazon, Honey is able to look through all of the sellers for a given item and show you the one with the lowest price.

Even better, Honey itself is absolutely free, and it kicks back a cash bonus for each

purchase you make. These points accumulate in your HoneyGold account, and you can use them for thousands of sellers, including Target, Walmart, Groupon, and more.

There's really no reason *not* to add Honey to your browser, except for maybe *one* huge concern. Once you see how much money you're saving, you might just turn into one of those crazy impulse shoppers!

To get started with Honey and make your savings automatic, check out [www.joinhoney.com](http://www.joinhoney.com)!

## In An Accident? Don't Know What to Do? Here Are 3 Big Things to Take Care Of

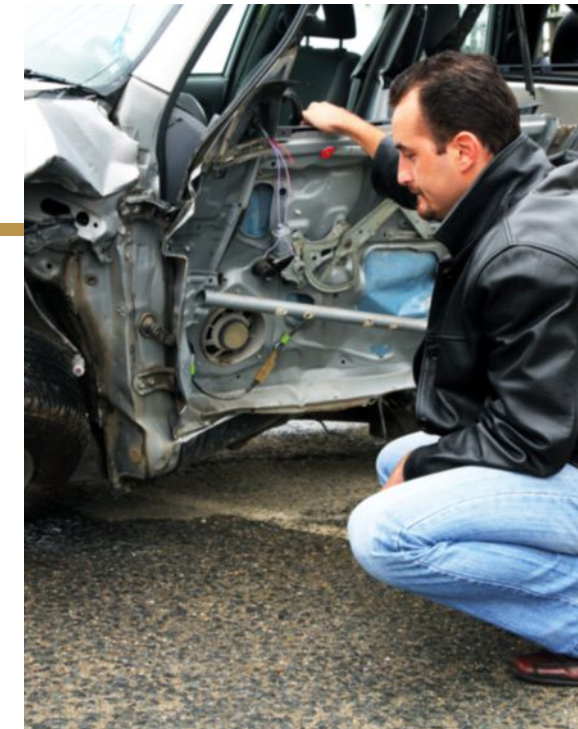
Even if you don't suffer a life-threatening injury, auto accidents are scary and disorienting. Your vehicle is damaged, maybe even destroyed. There might be other drivers there, panicking about their own injuries, vehicle damage, or insurance coverage. Others may be on the scene as well — good Samaritans or looky-loos — complicating things further. What do you do first?

**First, get help on the way.** If you or someone else is injured, call 911 and let them know where you are and what happened. If there aren't any visible injuries, it's still important to get the authorities to the scene. It's okay to tell the cops that it's not a medical emergency and let them prioritize the call themselves, but you do need law enforcement there before you drive off. An officer will make their own record of what happened and is trained to

assess potential injuries. They might catch something you missed.

**Second, document everything.** Take pictures of the scene, of your car, of the other cars involved, and of any injuries that you sustain. Keep documenting things over the next few months. How is your medical treatment going? What are your injuries preventing you from doing? Are there any new developments? Write it all down and take pictures, if applicable.

**Third, don't talk to the other driver's insurance company, sign anything, or agree to anything until you talk to your own attorney.** The other person's insurance company is not your friend; they want to pay out as little as possible. If you sign anything, you may be helping their case. Documents are very strong evidence in



court. Talk to your attorney first. They'll tell you how to go about dealing with insurance companies.

Keep those tips in mind. Hopefully you'll never have to use them!

# Client Testimonials



## "HELLO. OVER A YEAR AGO I FOUND MYSELF AGAINST A WALL FINANCIALLY. I

am a single mother of one, but over the past seven years, I was also raising my deceased sister's three teenagers and caring for my 85-year-old grandmother, all while trying to work a full-time and very demanding job. Between a very large rent, electric and utility bills, not to mention feeding and clothing four children, I found myself broken both mentally and financially. I was also being sued during this time. Just when I was about to give up hope on everything, I met Mr. Pappas and Mr. Geller, and they gave me hope and helped to restore my faith!

"Nearly two years later, after working with this dynamic team and working through the

credit-rebuilding program, I have increased my credit score, stopped any harassing creditor calls, and been able to repay some of my debts! I can see my way better now and have become much wiser! I am working toward re-entering college to obtain my graduate degree and continuing to build my credit in order to buy my own home!

"I am very thankful for the credit-rebuilding program because it opened my eyes and ears and conditioned me to become a better consumer. I utilize any discounts or perks that are available to me in order to cut my costs. I also work closely with my insurance providers to ensure that needed services are covered and in order to avoid large debts. I have taken the time to do a financial inventory of my monthly spending and been able to eliminate over half of my bad spending habits. I am truly thankful for this

program; I was never judged, even when I would say, 'I know this is too bad to bounce back.' I was reminded by the representatives that it was FIXABLE with a little hard work and diligence.

"This year I am less worried and stressed as the holiday season is upon me, and it feels GREAT! I may not be wealthy, and I have a long way to go still, but nothing beats having that peace of mind and feeling of accomplishment. I will continue on my journey and soon will be sharing pictures of my success. I am more credit-conscious and really enjoy all of the solicitations to get credit cards or purchases — although I am not as vulnerable to fall for many of them as I now read the fine PRINT."

Sincerely,



## Sudoku Time!

		1						
9							8	6
			8	5		9		
8	9		3		6	1		
	1	6		4	9		7	
							4	
			6	7	3			
		5	4	8				7
				5	1	3		

7	2	1	1	8	8	9	4
7	9	6	2	8	9	6	1
8	5	1	2	4	6	2	7
6	1	2	9	1	1	2	6
8	4	8	7	5	9	1	2
9	1	7	2	2	7	8	8
1	6	7	6	8	2	7	9
1	9	5	1	2	6	4	6
2	8	9	6	4	1	8	5

Solution:

## The Easiest HOMEMADE CORNED BEEF You've Ever Made

### INGREDIENTS

Recipe Inspired by Allrecipes.com.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 onion, cut into wedges               | 2 tablespoons sugar  |
| 4 potatoes, peeled and quartered       | 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar                              |
| 1 pound carrots, cut into large chunks | ½ teaspoon ground black pepper                                 |
| 3 cups water or broth                  | 1 (3-pound) corned beef brisket with spice packet, cut in half |
| 3 cloves garlic, minced                | 1 small head cabbage, cut into wedges                          |
| 1 bay leaf                             |  |

### DIRECTIONS

- Place onion, potatoes, and carrots in a 5-quart slow cooker. Combine water, garlic, bay leaf, sugar, vinegar, and contents of spice packet in a small bowl; pour over vegetables. Top with brisket and cabbage.
- Cover and cook on low until meat and vegetables are tender, 8 to 9 hours. Remove bay leaf before serving.