



Seufert Law Offices, PA

We'll Get You Through It

From the Captain's Log LBJ All The Way

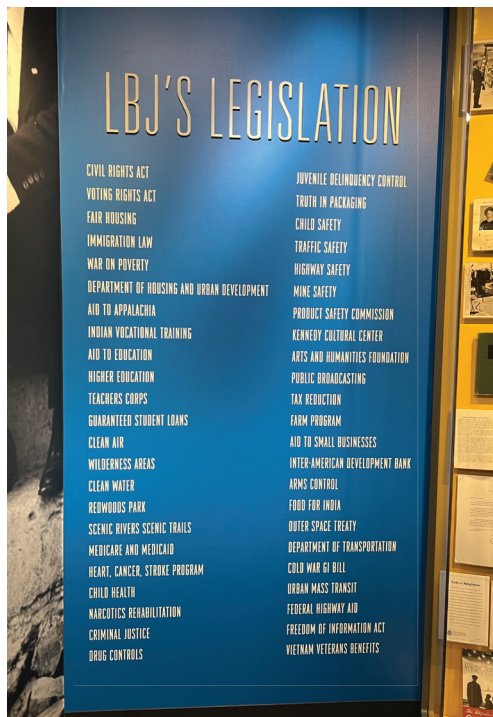
I had the opportunity to again be with 2000 of my closest lawyer friends last month, this time for the Winter Convention held in Austin, TX. The weather was less than balmy, dropping to the 30's at night and the 50's during the day. One day inched up into the 60's but was blustery so felt like 40. I thought southern TX was warm in the winters, it is NOT.

Having the afternoons free, between the seminars/meetings every morning and the dinners and events every evening, there was some time for sightseeing so my friend Bill,

from Seattle, and I decided to go to the LBJ Library on the outskirts of Austin. Lyndon

Baine Johnson was our 36th President, who ascended to the presidency upon the assigation of John F. Kennedy. Upon finishing JFK's term, LBJ was then reelected in 1964 by a massive 61% of the popular vote. During his Presidency LBJ was successful in passing over 45 pieces of major legislation, including the Civil Rights Act, Voting Rights Act, Fair Housing Act, Freedom of Information Act, Higher Education Act, Guaranteed Student Loan Act, and establishing the Dept of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Medicare and Medicaid, and the Department of Transportation. He had multiple phones installed in every room of the White House and is said to have carried on multiple conversations at the same time to get done what he wanted done. He refused to run for a full 2nd term and "retired" to his ranch after the 1968 elections, but sadly died a few years later at the age of 64 from an underlying heart condition.

While much can be said as to his "progressive politics" he was a man who worked 18 hour days, and got both sides of Congress to compromise and get to work. This current Congress would have trouble passing a doggy-day-care act. If you are ever in Austin, the LBJ Library is a must-see visit. ●



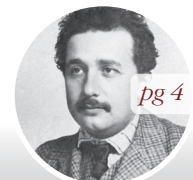
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Postnuptial Agreements Becoming More Common

Prenuptial agreements are signed before marriage to determine the division of a couple's assets in the event of a divorce. They can also spell out how assets will be distributed after the death of a spouse, which is important when children from previous marriages are involved.

Most divorce attorneys would agree that a young couple getting married for the first time would not need a prenup if they each bring few financial assets into the marriage and have no expectations of a future inheritance or a trust fund distribution. However, if one spouse-to-be (or both) has significant premarital assets or expects future assets from a trust fund or inheritance, a prenuptial agreement is highly recommended. Consider U.S. divorce rates: 44 percent for first marriages, 67 percent for second marriages, and 73 percent for third marriages.

Many couples shun the idea of a prenuptial agreement since, in their minds, it places a dark cloud over the marriage before it even begins. For others, the idea simply never occurs to them. For these people, a *postnuptial* agreement is another option.

A postnuptial agreement covers the same territory as a prenup and is effective immediately. The main difference is that it's signed any time *after* the wedding, whether two months or 20 years later. Some couples whose marriages are on shaky ground craft postnups that include "lifestyle clauses" (e.g., financial repercussions for infidelity), which serve as incentives to save the marriage.

If divorce becomes a reality, a prenuptial or postnuptial agreement can eliminate the added stress of drawn-out, acrimonious court battles. For further information, contact a family law attorney to discuss the matter. •



March 2024 Notable Dates

Mar. 3
National Anthem Day

Mar. 10
Daylight Saving Time Begins

Mar. 17
St. Patrick's Day

Mar. 19
First Day of Spring

Mar. 26
Make Your Own Holiday Day

Mar. 29
Good Friday

Mar. 31
Easter

Early Hospital Discharge and Medical Malpractice

Sometimes a patient is discharged too early from the hospital, before they are medically stable enough to safely go home, and winds up having to return shortly thereafter. If they were harmed as a result of an early discharge, they may have a viable medical malpractice claim. The defendant (medical provider or facility) may be guilty of failing to properly diagnose and treat; failing to conduct proper testing before discharge; failing to schedule a necessary follow-up visit; or failing to ensure medical stability prior to discharge.

However, being readmitted to the hospital (or another facility) does not necessarily mean a patient was harmed by an early discharge. Sometimes it's just a matter of receiving the same treatment they would have received had they stayed in the hospital. If the delay in treatment caused no harm, medical malpractice won't come into play.

Hospitals sometimes face overcrowding issues and rush patients out to make room for new ones, or they might be concerned about the surgical volume they can manage at a given time. Poor hospital planning is often to blame. Patients should not pay the price for that.

Early discharge of newborn infants is the most common type of premature discharge. Forty-eight hours is the minimum amount of time a baby should be kept at the hospital.

If you have concerns about what you feel is a premature discharge, speak to the treating physician! You have every right to know what's going on. And if you believe you have been the victim of medical malpractice, enlist the help of a medical malpractice attorney to protect your rights. •

Seufert Law Offices, PA
Attorneys At Law



59 Central Street, Franklin, NH 03235
(603) 934-9837
www.seufertlaw.com

Protect Your Family, Protect Your Rights



LBJ All
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Young Einstein

On March 14, 1879, Albert Einstein was born in Ulm, Germany. He would eventually revolutionize our understanding of space and time, get the ball rolling on the atomic bomb (which he later regretted), decline an offer to become Israel's second president, and earn *Time*'s "Person of the [20th] Century" in 1999. A decent résumé.

But before making *these* waves, he jolted his family on day one with the immensity and misshapen look of his newborn noggin. But he was medically fine and eventually grew into it.

There is a myth that Einstein struggled in school. Although fluency in language eluded him till approximately age 9, there was no stopping him in mathematics and science, as he mastered differential and integral calculus by age 15. He did, however, slack off in subjects in which he had little interest — the reason he failed his first college entrance exam.

The violin struck a chord with Einstein. He began lessons at age 5 and continued playing throughout his life. Had science not called, Einstein said he would have dedicated his life to music. Some say that music is math being expressed in noise, both music and math being Einstein's strengths.

Einstein was married twice; fathered three children by his first wife, including an out-of-wedlock daughter who historians hadn't a clue existed until 1986; pursued multiple extramarital affairs; and his second marriage was to his first cousin — to Einstein, time was relative; why not his second wife as well?

Fatherhood transformed Einstein's hair from well-groomed to mad scientist. The responsibilities of supporting his family left little room for nuisance trips to the barber. An occasional snip here and there by his wife was all he would tolerate, and an iconic look was born. ●