

PERSPECTIVES



**KINERK
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Attorneys at Law

Yes, Savanna, daddy is a “Trial Lawyer.”

I have an 11 year old daughter named Savanna. She is smarter than I am, a far better negotiator, and her mother and brothers will tell you often my match when it comes to oral argument. For these reasons she is often asked if she wants to be a lawyer like her dad. Until recently she would always proudly respond, “Yes, I want to be a trial lawyer.”

But she had a different answer the other day when we were sitting on the couch watching the evening news together. President Bush was lambasting trial lawyers, blaming them for many of our country’s woes. Savanna turned to me and said, “Dad, you know , I hear a lot of lawyer jokes about how lawyers are greedy and cheat. My friend’s dad is a doctor and he says lawyers are driving him out of business. Now the President says lawyers are bad. Why would I want to be a

lawyer? Why are you a lawyer?”

This is what I told her.

Through all of time, especially in free societies, lawyers have been the object of ridicule. This may be more true today than ever, but it has always been true. As long as those with wealth and power can be forced to treat even the poorest and most disadvantaged members of society fairly, those with power and money will use



their wealth and influence to attack lawyers.

I told Savannah that good lawyers wear this disdain as a badge of courage. We know the importance of what we do, we are proud of it and understand that good and ethical lawyers can stand proud in the face of attack because their purpose is pure.

How to Choose the Right Nursing Home



The great strides in medical science over the last fifty years have given us all the luxury of a much longer life span. This longer life span has been coupled with the unfortunate tendency of families to neglect the “hands on” care of their elderly family members. We all face the reality that we, or members of our families, are going to face the need for nursing home care at some point in the future. Fortunately, there are a number of excellent resources at our fingertips to help us select a quality nursing home facility.

Start your search by logging into www.medicare.gov, and click on the “Long-Term Care” link in the column on the left-hand side of your screen. This will take you to the Long-Term Care page, where you should then click on “Steps to Choosing Long-Time Care”. If you then click on step 4, “Find Out About Quality”, and then choose the “Nursing Home Compare” option, you can obtain a complete list of nursing homes in your area. This list will give you important information, including the name

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Retiring ref Beal unknown, unfazed

By Greg Hanson

(Reprinted with the permission of The Arizona Daily Star from an article published 12/11/04)

For three hours the other day, I tore through this newspaper's archives, looking for mention of Bob Beal, football referee.

Surely he blew a call somewhere, some year, that brought down thunder and produced angry words. Thirty years in the officiating business, from the Bisbee-Douglas high school game to the Michigan-USC Rose Bowl, there had to be something.

Here's what I found: Several mentions of Beal, a prominent Tucson trial lawyer, working high-profile cases. Another story or two connected to his business deals with the late Brian Williams, a 1990s UA-NBA basketball player of note. But not a syllable about Beal's officiating career.

Beal was not involved in the four-lateral, Cal-Stanford, band-on-the-field fiasco of 1982. He did not allow a fifth down in a goal-line stand that meant a conference championship. His integrity was never challenged, not even as a former UA offensive lineman who worked four UA-



ASU games, including the classic 1986 Chuck Cecil game at Arizona Stadium.

Beal has been part of a golden era of Tucson football officials that produced Ed Hochuli, perhaps the NFL's leading crew chief, and recently retired Pac-10 officials Bobby Rauh and Jim Fogltance, among others.

One of the most memorable games of Beal's career came at the Rose Bowl in '89. Michigan led 15-14, fourth down at the goal line, two minutes remaining. Tailback Leroy Hoard runs wide, to Beal's side.

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and address of the nursing home, the number of beds in the facility, and whether or not the facility accepts Medicare.

The Medicare site does not contain any ratings of the nursing homes that are listed, nor does it provide any information regarding complaints or any inspection deficiencies which may have been found by the Arizona Department of Health Services but, it does provide contact



information for state and local agencies to help you with your nursing home choice.

You can also find a list of nursing homes in your area by logging onto www.myziva.net or the Arizona Healthcare Association web site www.azhca.org.

Once you have found what looks like some suitable nursing homes in your area, you should then log onto www.memberofthefamily.net. You should click on the "National Watch List" option, and then a map of the United States will appear. Click on "Arizona" to obtain information on nursing homes. You can also select the "Registry of U.S. Nursing Homes" option on the home page, and then click on "Arizona" to get an up-to-date list of Arizona nursing homes with details of any violations that were reported by the Arizona Department of Health Services. Please remember that just because a nursing home may have violations, it does not mean that the nursing home is unsafe. Many violations are not related to patient safety. As an informed consumer, you need information regarding violations by the nursing home so that you can discuss these violations with the administrator prior to making a final decision.

Finally, we cannot stress the value of getting as much information as possible about the nursing homes you're considering. You'll feel better and so will your loved one.

—Jim Dyer

