

CREDIT SHE DESERVES

Nicole Barnett: The Real Driving Force

I love being a lawyer, but I'll be honest: It's easy to get sucked into the coldness. Every day, there's a new story about how people are horrible to one another, and it's a reminder of the suffering in the world. Eventually, you get lost in the technical stuff because you can't take any more tragedy. I'll admit, there have been times when I got caught focusing on overhead and trying to make monthly goals. If it weren't for my wife, I wouldn't be half the lawyer I am today.

Nicole is the most incredible person I have ever met. I know it sounds like I'm exaggerating because she's my wife, but Nicole is truly the rare kind of person who just understands life. Did you know that if you put two pianos in a room and strike a chord on one piano, the same chord will vibrate on the other piano? That's what Nicole is able to do on a human level. She has this uncanny ability to cut through all the nonsense and recognize the heart of the matter. In other words, she knows which chord is being played in the moment.

In every case, Nicole never fails to see the heart that is hurting beneath it all, and she makes sure I'm able to see it, too.

For the last three years, Nicole has worked at the firm as chief operating officer, and as a result, we've become a stronger team. She left her interior design job and came to the firm to work with the finances. She soon saw the human side to the firm and felt compelled to bring it to the forefront. In every case, Nicole never fails to see the heart that is hurting beneath it all, and she makes sure I'm able to see it, too.

Nicole has profoundly improved my life. When I first met her, she helped me realize the important things in life: being a good person and being a



good father. It's uncanny how she is able to bring out the best in people and balance everything in our lives. In addition to handling marketing, strategic vision, human resources, business development, and advocating for our clients, Nicole is an amazing mother who is always there for our kids, Finn Atticus and Harlow Grace.

Nicole is the driving force behind our firm's values and success. Despite her accomplishments, she never gets the credit she deserves, and that's so frustrating! When people hear she works at the office, they often think, "Aw, that's cute. Wifey's helping out." But in reality, while I do all the lawyer stuff, Nicole basically runs everything else. She gives us direction and reminds me why we do what we do. She's the straw that stirs the drink, I like to say.

After six years of marriage, I know I'm a stronger person today than I was before I met Nicole. She recognizes how life should be, and she uses her endless wealth of compassion to help move us in that direction. Nicole was supposed to just be at the firm temporarily, but

she really couldn't help herself, and I thank God for that. I don't know where we would be without her, but I know we would be missing something irreplaceable.

-Case Barnett



3 FAMILY ACTIVITIES for Thanksgiving

Unless you have a child auditioning for "MasterChef Junior," you're probably not going to let the little ones cook the turkey this Thanksgiving. Just because the kitchen might be off limits, though, doesn't mean you can't find a few creative ways to make the holiday extra special for your kids. Spice up Thanksgiving with these fun, family-friendly activities.

Coloring-Book Tablecloths If you have a big family, you are probably familiar with the Thanksgiving tradition of the kids' table. It may be smaller than the grown-ups' seating arrangement, but it doesn't have to be any less special. Turn your kids' table into a canvas for a colorful, creative dining experience.

To do this, use craft or art paper to cover the table. Tape everything down tightly and provide crayons and colored pencils for every place setting. If you want to add some extra holiday spirit, put the drawing supplies in empty cranberry sauce and pumpkin cans.

Gratitude Mobiles Of course, Thanksgiving isn't just about delicious food. It's also about reflecting on the parts of our lives we are grateful

for. Teaching kids about gratitude is the most valuable Thanksgiving lesson. Bring that concept to life with a gratitude mobile.

Grab some colored paper circles — or cut them out — and have your children write down things that they are thankful for. A silver Sharpie is great for this. Punch holes in the tops of the circles and run string through them. Tie the other end of the string to a coat hanger or embroidery hoop and hang it from the ceiling.

Stuff the Turkey Game Want to get the kids outside so you can get to work in the kitchen? Create a Thanksgiving-themed game for them to play outside while you prep the stuffing and put the turkey in the oven.

To create a holiday-themed "Stuff the Turkey" game, all you need is a few paper bags. We'll bet you have some left over from shopping. Use two small bags stuffed with scrap paper to create legs and glue them to a larger bag folded to look like the body of a turkey. Now that you have your turkey, you need some balls to stuff it with. Anything soft and baseball-sized will work, even some balled-up paper. Kids will take turns trying to toss the balls into the turkey, scoring points for every shot made.

INJURED ON A DEADLINE

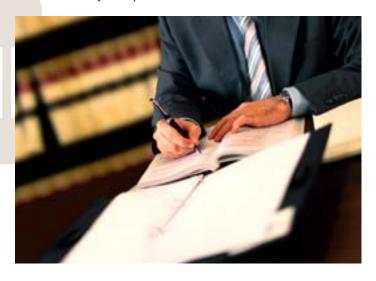
Is the Statute of Limitations Working Against You?

If a person commits an act that results in harm coming to an individual or their property, the wronged party has the right to file a claim and seek compensation. However, this is not an indefinite opportunity. There is a set period of time (or a statute of limitations) in which to file a claim, and in most crimes, the length depends on the crime in question. The statute of limitations is often an important factor in personal injury cases.

In California, the statute of limitations to file a personal injury case expires two years after the date of the accident that caused the injury. Basically, if you were injured in a car accident on February 5, 2016, you have until February 5, 2018, to file your claim. That said, there are exceptions to this rule. If you are injured and the statute of limitations on your case expired, don't despair. There are circumstances in which the two-year time limit may be extended.

The most common reason to extend the statute of limitations is the "delayed discovery rule." People often don't realize the full extent of their injuries until long after the accident. In fact, in some circumstances, the clock on the statute of limitations won't start running at the time of the accident. Instead, the statute of limitations is delayed until the injury becomes known and the plaintiff has reason to suspect wrongdoing, even if the identity of who caused the injury remains unknown.

The delayed discovery rule isn't the only factor that can influence the length of a statute of limitations. Minor status, military service, and certain extenuating circumstances may also extend or reduce the time you have to file. If you or someone you love has suffered an injury caused by another person's negligence, don't wait. Statute of limitations law is complicated and does not always work in favor of an injured party. Contact an experienced personal injury lawyer today and learn if you can still seek the justice you deserve.



WISDOM OF THE CROWD

Should I Speak to Witnesses After a Car Accident?

Court cases can be a dramatic affair, but your average case doesn't tend to be as thrilling as the cases Hollywood crafts for movies and TV. On the screen, each piece of evidence has the audience on the edge of their seats, and there's nothing like a surprise witness to increase suspense.

While rarely so melodramatic, real witness testimony can greatly influence numerous court cases and even personal injury cases involving auto accidents. Car accidents aren't rare, but they still attract some



attention from passers-by. If you're involved in a car accident, engaging with witnesses may or may not be beneficial, depending on your circumstances.

When Witnesses Help Witnesses who are able to provide an objective, unbiased account of the events leading up to the crash can help determine who is at fault. Even if a witness did not see a crash, they may have overheard or observed some behaviors that can help your case. For example, a witness may see the other driver trying to hide their cellphone after the crash or overhear them saying they "screwed up." This information suggests the other driver was at least partially at fault in causing the crash.

When Witnesses Hurt Speaking to witnesses can harm your case should you accidentally disclose damaging information at the scene of the crash. Let's say a witness asks if you are injured and you say you don't need an ambulance. Considering most people don't recognize the full extent of their injuries until later, telling a witness you're not injured can prevent you from being able to recover compensation for medical bills if treatment later becomes necessary. The other driver can call on this witness to recount the conversation in front of the judge or jury.

Choosing to speak with witnesses after a car accident is up to you, but there is one person you should speak to: your attorney. Reach out to your attorney right away so they can build a strong case in your favor and identify witnesses who can help or hurt you.



Roasted Parmesan Pesto Potatoes

It only takes 3 ingredients to make these crispy, flavorful potatoes.

They're the perfect side dish for any meal.

Ingredients

- 2 pounds red potatoes, quartered
- 2 tablespoons basil pesto

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 F.
- In large bowl, combine potatoes and pesto.
 Toss to coat. Transfer potatoes to large baking sheet or shallow roasting pan. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Roast 20 minutes and remove from oven.
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 3 tablespoons grated fresh Parmesan cheese
- Sprinkle Parmesan cheese evenly over potatoes and put pan back in the oven. Roast for additional 10–15 minutes or until potatoes are tender and crispy. Remove from oven and serve warm.

Recipe courtesy of TwoPeasAndTheirPod.com

Have a LAUGH!



EAT FOOD ALL DAY LIKE A

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Iconic Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Balloons





ICONIC MACY'S

Thanksgiving Day Parade Balloons

Thanksgiving is a holiday full of traditions, from turkey and stuffing to football and naps. Since 1924, the Macy's Parade has grown to become not only a Thanksgiving staple but also the world's largest parade. Over 3.5 million people attended the parade last year, with another 20 million tuning in from home. The main attraction is always the massive character balloons, which first graced the skies in 1927. Over the decades, some of these balloons have become nearly as famous as the character they depict.

FELIX THE CAT

When the Felix the Cat balloon appeared in 1931, it set the standard for all characters to follow. Sadly, the original balloon got tangled in wires and caught on fire, so it has been lost to history. Felix's influence on the parade is so immense, however, that when Macy's brought him back in 2016 for the

parade's 90th anniversary, they recreated his original design. Without Felix's debut, the parade might look a lot different today.

SNOOPY

When it comes to balloon characters, none is more famous than the classic "Peanuts" beagle. His first balloon floated through the sky in 1968, and he's been a regular fixture ever since. Charles Schultz's famous pooch holds the record for most variations in a parade (eight) and most total appearances (40). Though Snoopy doesn't come out every year, he usually closes the show when he does.

PIKACHU

The Pokémon mascot didn't appear until 2001, but he's become a star attraction, showing up every year since. Bright, expressive, and impossible to miss, Pikachu checks off all the boxes for a successful balloon character. For 16 years, those who predicted that Pokémon was just a fad have gotten a big, yellow reminder of just how wrong they were.