



**CASE BARNETT**  
**LAW**



How did a girl born into poverty to a single teenage mother in rural Mississippi become the host of the highest-rated daytime talk show ever and build a \$2.6 billion fortune? Some might say she got a lucky break when she landed a job in radio as a high schooler, which set her on this path, or when she was chosen as the youngest and first-ever Black woman to anchor the Nashville news at the age of 19. But how do you account for the years of tireless work, the personal touch that made her guests open up to her, and the risks she took to diversify her media empire?

That girl, now a 67-year-old media mogul, is, of course, the one and only Oprah Winfrey. And while it might look like she had luck on her side, she thinks of luck differently. In her own words: "Luck is preparation meeting opportunity."

Of course, luck is on my mind because we celebrate St. Patty's Day this month. And while it's tempting to think of ourselves as lucky or unlucky, I really think Oprah is onto something. For the first six years of my career, I worked as a public defender. Talk about a difficult job! I had to grind it out each day

# A LUCKY WIN?

## ADVICE FROM CASE (AND OPRAH!) ON HOW TO BE LUCKY

in court, representing people who did some unspeakable stuff, while prosecutors talked down to me and jurors shot me the stink eye (at best!). In a way, you could say I was lucky to have gotten that job because it gave me amazing trial experience, which I continue to use and build on to this day.

When I left that job, a friend of mine who is also an attorney approached me and asked for my help on an extremely difficult liability case. His client had sustained serious brain injuries due to an accident, but it would be difficult for us to prove that the defendant's negligence is what caused our client's injuries. My friend thought I could help because I had years of experience trying difficult cases. But I was hesitant at first because it was an inherently risky case to take on. I liked the client, though, and believed he deserved to be compensated for his life-altering injuries, so I agreed to take the case.

Long story short, we went to court and we won. Some people looked at that settlement and said, "You got so lucky!" And in a way, they were right. We landed a good judge, and we picked the right jurors. But it's also true that I'd been honing my skills as a trial lawyer in one of the most difficult arenas for many years when the opportunity to represent that client came my way. Just like Oprah, I made

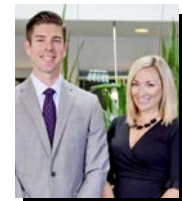
my own luck through preparation, which made me well-equipped to say "yes" when the right opportunity came along.

So, if you think of yourself as unlucky and you want to be luckier, start with preparation. And here's some advice of my own to add to Oprah's: You're more likely to be lucky if you surround yourself with great people. I wouldn't see the positive outcomes I do each day if it weren't for the contributions of the people I work with and for.

I'm inspired by clients, and their stories fuel me to do great work so I can get them the compensation they deserve. Similarly, my team and I work well together, which makes us able to create something that is greater than the sum of its parts. There's a certain alchemy that happens when the right people are in place, you've prepared, and you're willing to say "yes" to opportunities when they present themselves. That's how you get lucky.

This St. Patrick's Day, put on something green so you don't get pinched, but don't hunt for a four-leaf clover. Make your own luck instead.

-Case Barnett



## WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS ... Scrub the Microwave

Lemons don't just add a tart flavor to your favorite desserts or cool you down in a refreshing drink on a hot summer day. In addition to bold flavors, lemons also have powerful cleaning properties. Their acidity and oils cut through grease and can sanitize many of your household items.

The best place to clean with a lemon is in the kitchen. For the microwave, simply juice a whole lemon into a bowl of water, then plop the used peels into the bowl.

Microwave the mixture for a few minutes, let the bowl cool before removing it, then wipe away the grease in the microwave. You can also use this method for your oven.

For odor-blocking properties, you can use a lemon as an air freshener. Leave half of a lemon in your refrigerator to trap and block potential smells and toss old lemon rinds down the garbage disposal. Run the disposal to clean the blades and freshen up the sink.

As for your kitchen tools, don't toss them out without trying this lemon trick first.

Start by sprinkling salt on a wooden cutting board, then slice a lemon in half. Using half the lemon (flesh-side down) like a sponge, scrub the board really well. Wipe and remove the leftover lemon juice and rinse the board before using it again. Not only will the board appear cleaner, but it also won't smell as bad, and the bacteria will be gone. You can also use this method to polish dining ware, spruce up copper, and even remove stuck-on food from plates.

Now, here's the real secret: Once you master kitchen cleaning a la lemon, you can use these same principles to clean other parts of your house. For example, salt and lemon can be used to scrub grimy sinks and faucets, while a few squeezes of lemon juice in a cup of water makes an excellent cleaning solution for mirrors and windows. You can even make your own reusable cleaning spray by fermenting lemon peels — and the peels of other citrus fruits — in white vinegar for two weeks. Remove the peels after two weeks and spritz the mixture over surfaces you need to clean!



## OUR CLIENTS SAY IT BEST

*"Great service and amazing support staff. I actually used Case's cell phone number and had direct access to him, which seems unheard of for an attorney. I always felt like I was important to Case. He spent so much time with me both in person and on the phone. The entire office made sure I always understood what was going on. Because of the positive outcome of my case, I am able to finally move on and get closure on a terrible accident that happened to my son. I highly recommend Case Barnett Law."*

**-Sara H.**



# IN MY LAND ...

## 2-Headed Snakes, Sparkles Galore, and More!

Did you know that there's a holiday called Make Up Your Own Holiday Day? It's on March 26, and we think it's a fun idea for imaginative kids like us. But when we started thinking about what holiday we'd make up, we realized we really don't need one because every day is a perfect day in our land! We each want to tell you more about what life is like in our perfect worlds!

Finn here! In my land, I build super-awesome robots that act just like humans. When I'm not putting robots together, I'm probably playing with my pet griffin — you know those cool creatures that are part lion, part eagle! Since they have wings and I can fly, sometimes we fly around together to check up on the robots, catch a good view, and just have fun. Oh, and all the snakes in my land have two heads! My sister, Harlow, loves it here, but her land also has some really girly features. I'll let her tell you more about them.

Hi! It's Harlow. My land is so pretty! Everything is pink and sparkly, and it rains glitter. I have 100 babies and get to feed them all cupcakes. My land is such a happy and fun place to be. The unicorns especially love it here! Even when the two-headed snakes or robots show up, everyone gets along just fine! I like to play with my babies and wave at Finn while he flies around above us. I might even fly one day too!



We both love going on walks with Mom and Dad and looking for secret portals to our land. You never know where you'll find one or what awesome new animal might show up. Things are really perfect here and every day feels like Christmas *and* Halloween *and* our birthdays all at once! If you find yourself in new territory with robots and griffins hanging out with unicorns in a glitter storm, you may have found a secret portal into our land. And that must mean you're pretty lucky! But, shhh, don't tell anyone else how to get here, okay?

—Finn and Harlow

Finn is making a St. Patty's Day leprechaun trap. It's a yearly tradition!



### GREEN GODDESS SMOOTHIE

*Inspired by AmbitiousKitchen.com*

*If you're looking to get your green on, why not try this light smoothie?*

#### Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cup unsweetened vanilla almond milk
- 1 organic apple, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium frozen banana
- 1 1/2 cups fresh organic spinach
- 1 tbsp chia seeds
- 1/2 medium avocado

#### Directions

1. In a large, high-powered blender, add in all ingredients.
2. Blend on high for 1-2 minutes, or until all ingredients are well combined.
3. If necessary, add in more almond milk to thin the smoothie.
4. Serve immediately and enjoy!



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Justice for 2 Injured Minors



## JUSTICE FOR 2 INJURED MINORS

### **Settlement Amount: Over \$1 million**

Life can change  
in the blink  
of an eye, and  
that's sadly what  
happened with a  
recent client of ours,

a 14-year-old boy who

was playing on the roof of his family's apartment when he fell through a skylight. He landed on his head and sustained brain injuries that required two surgeries and will forever alter the course of his life.

Though the building's owners had advertised the apartments as family-friendly, they neglected to mitigate potential hazards, which created dangerous conditions, including the one that caused my client's life-altering injuries. We were able to settle this liability case for over \$1 million. While this settlement cannot undo his injuries, this compensation will help the boy

and his family pay for medical expenses and get their lives back on track after this tragic accident.

### **Settlement Amount: Confidential**

We also recently settled a case for an 11-year-old client of ours who was molested by her school bus driver. Our client has special needs and deserved safety and protection during her transport to and from school. To see justice done for this girl and her family, we sued both the school district and the private bus company it had contracted for transportation services. Because our client is a minor, the settlement amount for this case is being kept confidential, but we are proud to have reached a settlement that will help take care of our client for the rest of her life.

The team at Case Barnett Law fights every day for clients who are injured and suffer due to someone else's negligence. We're committed to helping our clients get the justice and compensation they deserve. If you know someone who has been injured unjustly, we can help. Give us a call at 949-565-2993 or email [Case@CaseBarnettLaw.com](mailto:Case@CaseBarnettLaw.com).