

LOOKING BACK ON 2014

2014 was a year that started and ended with two big cases. It started with the trial of a death penalty case which lasted over 8 weeks – most of that being spent in jury selection. The year ended with the re-trial of Ed Graf, which ended abruptly with a deal that ensured his immediate release.

Along with those two capital murder cases, we also handled a number of “less serious” charges. Some of the results we were able to obtain include:

Obtained dismissals in an arson case, along with a felony kidnapping case based on a lack of evidence.

Obtained a dismissal in a DWI case after winning a motion to suppress based on an invalid stop.

(continued on page 3)

WACO HISTORY WITH A TWIST

Most people know Clyde Barrow was arrested in Waco and jailed. He busted out with the help of his 19 girlfriend - Bonnie Parker. She helped him bust out of jail by smuggling a gun into the jail. He wasn't too successful though, and was captured and sent to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

You may know that, but you might not know that he was released from TDC early because of overcrowding. They then went on to become famous - or infamous. So if you think overcrowding is something new - it's not.



GRAF TRIAL

WHY YOU'RE GETTING THIS

I have been looking for a way to keep in touch with all of clients and friends. I'm always coming across information I want to share; information I hope you will find interesting and useful. I've decided the best way to do that is through a regular newsletter, and this is the first attempt.

I would appreciate your comments and feedback. If you find it useful I would love to know; if you think it's a waste of paper I would like to know that also. If you have suggestions for improvements or topics you would like to see covered I would really like to know that.

Please feel free to share this. If you know someone who would like to receive their own copy let me know and I will add them to the mailing list.

LEGAL BYTES

NEWS AND OTHER STUFF

JANUARY 2015

BE THE SMARTEST GUY/GAL IN THE ROOM

The purpose of this column is to give you something to impress your friends with how smart you are.

It's a fact of life that legal shows are popular. It started with Perry Mason, and since then there have been hundreds of shows and movies devoted to criminal cases and criminal defense lawyers. The result is that almost everyone thinks they know something about criminal law. So it's not surprising that people like to talk about criminal cases at parties.

Everyone knows the police have to read your "rights" to you – you have the right to remain silent, etc... So what happens if they don't do that? Most people think that's a big deal, maybe even something that will require them to dismiss the charges against you. The truth is it's not that big a deal unless they are going to question you.

Miranda warnings – that's what they are called – are designed to make sure you understand you don't have to talk to police – and that you don't have to incriminate yourself. If they're simply arresting you, there's no reason to warn you. So the answer to what happens if they don't read you "your rights"? In most cases absolutely nothing.





KING RANCH CHICKEN

- 1 large onion
- 2 cups cooked chopped chicken
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can rotel tomatoes
- 1 can green chillis
- 1 cup velveeta cheese
- 2 cups grated cheddar cheese
- 1 bag doritos tortilla chips

Saute onion in 1 tbsp. olive oil in sauce pan. Add soup, rotel, green chillis and velveeta. Stir over medium heat until combined and cheese has melted. (if mixture is too stiff add a few tablespoons of milk)

Lightly oil 9 x 13 baking dish. Put doritos on bottom, distribute chicken evenly over chips. Sprinkle ½ cup cheddar over chicken. Pour soup mixture over all. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake 300 deg. Until bubbly and brown – approx. 20-30 minutes. Serve with doritos and salsa

2014 IN REVIEW

(continued from front page)

Obtained dismissal on a Motion to Revoke probation.

We also were able to negotiate favorable plea agreements in several cases, including offers of deferred adjudication for Murder (reduced to assault), arson and multiple charges of theft and bringing drugs into a correction facility.

The most “newsworthy” case of the year was Ed Graf. After getting his 1987 conviction for capital murder reversed, his case went back to trial in October. While the jury was deliberating, we obtained an offer to plead to the reduced charge of murder. Because he was convicted back in 1987, he was eligible for immediate release on mandatory supervision – a fact the State did not discover until it was too late. The case ended in dramatic fashion – with the plea being entered as the bailiff was on the way with a note that the jury had reached a verdict of guilty on murder. Had that verdict been received and a life sentence returned Ed would probably be spending the rest of his life in prison. As it turned out, the end result was that he was released from prison a few days later, and was able to experience life on the outside for the first time in over 25 years.

Past results are not a guarantee or prediction of what will happen in each case. All cases are different and it is our goal to identify those differences and secure the best possible result for each client.

LEGAL BYTES

NEWS AND OTHER STUFF

Delete this box or enter quote or tagline here.



Thank You!

I never forget what a privilege it is to be entrusted with representing people in some of the most difficult times of their lives. I'm thankful every day that I get to do something I love; and hopefully make a difference in some small way. I couldn't do that without clients are willing to put their lives in our hands.

I never want to miss the opportunity to *thank you* for that privilege.

INSERT TEXT OR LOGO HERE.

www.waco-criminal-attorney.com

100 N. 6th St., Suite 802 | Waco, Texas 76701
phone 254.296.0020 | fax 877-726-4411

