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'ONBOARDING' BY FIRE

THE 'FIRST DAY' AT WORK I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER

Ever have those bad dreams where you're supposed to give a presentation or speak in public, but you haven't prepared at all? It's the stuff of nightmares for a reason, and yet that's almost exactly the situation I found myself in, years ago, at the first law office I ever worked for.

You can imagine my excitement to be working for a bona fide law firm. I'd worked very hard to get there — law school, passing the bar, and more studying than anybody should ever have to deal with. When day one rolled around, I was nervous but also excited. I knew it wasn't going to be like a TV show law job, but even if I was stuck at a desk for a while, I knew I'd learn the ropes and eventually get the chance to prove myself in court.

When one of the partners approached me and shook my hand, I figured he was going to welcome me and tell me where to sit. "You the new attorney?" he said.

I told him I was.

He then stuffed a large folder into my hand. "Great," he said. "This is the client's file. You've got court in a few hours."

I must have misheard him, right? That's what I thought, anyway. But as he turned around and disappeared into the hustle and bustle of the busy office, I realized this was no misunderstanding — and when I asked around, I realized they weren't playing a joke on the new guy, either. I really did have court that day.

You can imagine the amount of cramming I did in the next few hours; it put studying for



the bar to shame! I'd never seen that case before. Heck, I'd never even been in front of a judge before. What were they thinking? Was this trial by fire? Looking back on it now, I suppose it was a bit of that. And I see the value in onboarding someone that way. But now that I've onboarded new attorneys myself, I think it was mostly just disorganization. They needed someone in court, all the other lawyers were busy with more important things, and I was the only person there who could do it. I can't fault them for that, although I've made sure to never put my own firm in the same position.

So, how was that first court appearance? Well, let's just say that I was nervous ... But despite that, it actually went pretty well. I got to argue in front of the judge, go back and forth with the opposing counsel (whom I later stayed in touch with), and I did a good job for my client. I'd call that a good outcome, considering it was literally a bad dream come true!

There was one interesting result, however: I found myself loving the experience. Being in

court was like nothing else I'd done. I had to be smart, tough, quick on my feet, but also know when to back down and defer to the judge. It was my first day at a real law firm, and I realized I was doing exactly what I was meant to do. Many attorneys don't actually like to go to court, which means I recognized the advantage I had in that arena early. To this day, my firm doesn't back down or shy away from going to trial, as long as it's in the client's best interest.

Like I said earlier, I've now guided a few new attorneys through their own "first days," and while I do believe in tossing someone in the deep end to see if they can swim, I also see the value in having a lifeguard nearby. I've never put anybody through quite what I endured my first day, but I'm grateful for the experience all the same. As the Whisler Law Firm starts yet another new year, I look back on that experience and all the others that have shaped the lawyer I am today.

-Josh Whisler

DON'T GET LOST IN THE SAUCE

THE 4 BEST COOKING AND TRAVEL SHOWS



Streaming services are booming right now, and there's no shortage of entertainment between HBO Max, Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, Disney+, and more. But the important question is this: What are the best binge-worthy cooking shows? Here are four streamable culinary shows you'll love.

'The Chef Show'

Get cozy at home and turn on Netflix to watch Chef Roy Choi, the man responsible

for bringing the food from the movie "Chef" to life, on "The Chef Show." You'll get incredible home-cooking tips while enjoying appearances from your favorite celebrities, like Tom Holland trying oysters for the first time. This show travels all over the world to explore recipes and honor the tradition of sharing good food. Four seasons are out now!

'Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown'

If you're not familiar with the late Anthony Bourdain, you're missing out on one of the most influential, internationally lauded chefs of the past few decades. "Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown," one of his longest-running TV shows, filmed 12 seasons over seven years, and all 12 seasons are streaming on HBO Max. The show follows Bourdain as he travels and discovers little-known places in order to celebrate diverse cultures by exploring their food and dining rituals.

'Gordon Ramsey: Uncharted'

Want something a little more recent? Hop on Disney+ to watch Chef Gordon Ramsey of "Hell's Kitchen," who has seven Michelin stars, leap out of helicopters to take some of the most epic adventures you can imagine — ranging from the icy waters of Alaska to the plains of New Zealand — all while learning to cook local food along the way. The latest two seasons are available right now!

'Great Chefs of New Orleans'

Whatever your favorite cooking show may be, it was likely influenced by this classic. One of the oldest cooking shows in the U.S., "Great Chefs" has aged like a fine wine. In this series, you'll meet some of the best chefs in New Orleans and learn how they create and prepare an appetizer, entree, and dessert. Two seasons are available to Amazon Prime members!



"We hired The Whisler Law Firm to help us with an insurance claim. They were incredibly professional and thorough. They really understood the situation and were able to guide us to a satisfactory settlement to help us with our unfortunate circumstances. By holding our hand throughout the process, my wife and I felt very comfortable. Thank you for your help!

-Darren S.



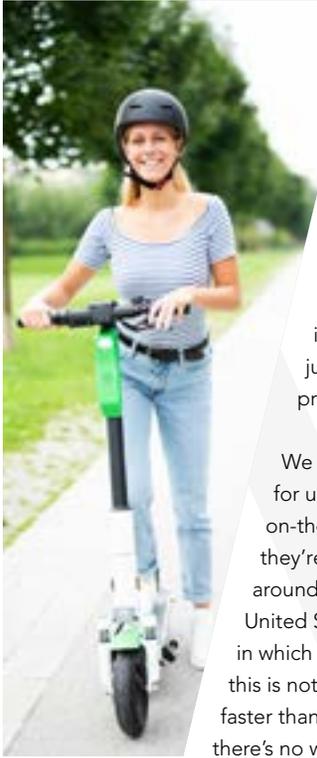
"Great experience with The Whisler Law Firm! Josh Whisler and his firm took great care of me and my home. Very professional and worked diligently with my insurance company to get me the funds I needed to fix up my home. Highly recommend Josh Whisler and his firm. Thanks!"

-Evan M.



ZIP-DANG!

E-SCOOTER FUN DOESN'T OUTWEIGH HAZARDS



Although the coronavirus put a damper on the fast-growing electronic scooter industry, scooters are once again rising in popularity here. After a crackdown by authorities on all kinds of transportation, we weren't sure how quickly companies like Lime would be able to resume their operations. They've assured the government that the scooters don't present a higher transmission risk than is acceptable — but virus transmission is just one of the many hazards these vehicles present to their riders and the public at large.

We get it: These little transports are a lot of fun for users, and their interfacing with phones and on-the-go apps make snagging one a cinch. But they're also hazardous: According to USA Today, around 40,000 scooter injuries were reported in the United States over the last five years or so, a period in which injuries also doubled in number. Remember, this is not your kid's toy: Electric scooters go fast — faster than their foot-propelled counterparts — and there's no way to guarantee riders will wear a helmet.

Even if they do, scooter riders can still strike pedestrians, who almost certainly won't be wearing protective gear, and represent a traffic hazard if used unsafely. No classes or safety courses are required to operate an electric scooter, and their speed makes riders more likely to take risks they wouldn't take on foot.

E-scooters operate in a varied environment as well. They can cruise down sidewalks and zip down alleyways, and their small size makes it easy to weave between road barriers and enter vehicle-free areas where people simply aren't expecting to encounter anything moving faster than walking speed. Of course, a large rock or a patch of beach sand is all it takes to send the scooter flying — along with the rider and anybody who might be nearby.

Who is at fault when this results in injury? That question changes from case to case and requires experienced attorneys to parse. Often, the riders themselves can be held liable, but if the accident happened in the roadway, then drivers could be at fault, as well. If the scooter malfunctioned, then the liability could rest with the company that made or distributed it.

The very things that make scooters popular — ease of access, utility, and ubiquity — are also what makes determining liability so hard. Our firm is experienced in all manner of personal injury, and we're here to help you answer that question — or any other injury question you might have. Please don't hesitate to give us a call.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can visit whislerlaw.com and access our highly informative webinars any time!

Also, sign up for a complimentary Will or Trust consultation!

Questions?

Call 833-529-867



KOREAN BEEF RICE BOWLS

INGREDIENTS

Inspired by SkinnyTaste.com

- 1/4 cup low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tsp light brown sugar
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- 1 lb lean ground beef
- 1/4 cup yellow onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tsp fresh ginger, grated
- 2 tbsp gochujang sauce, or more if desired
- 3 cups cooked brown rice
- 1 small cucumber, sliced
- 1/2 tbsp sesame seeds, plus more for topping
- 2 scallions, thinly sliced

DIRECTIONS

1. In a small bowl, combine soy sauce, 2 tbsp water, brown sugar, sesame oil, and red pepper flakes.
2. Spray a deep, nonstick skillet with cooking oil and place over high heat. Add the ground beef and cook until browned. Break up the meat with a wooden spoon as it cooks.
3. Add the onion, garlic, and ginger to the meat and cook for 1 minute.
4. Pour sauce over the beef, then cover and simmer on low heat for 10 minutes.
5. Divide rice evenly into four serving bowls. Top each with scant 2/3 cup beef, cucumber slices, sesame seeds, scallions, and gochujang, to taste.

"Optimism is the one quality more associated with success and happiness than any other."

– Brian Tracy



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We're so grateful for all the feedback on our newsletter! If you have anything you'd like to share, we'd love to hear from you.

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'THE BACHELORETTE' CONTESTANTS GO TO COURT

JUDGE, WILL YOU ACCEPT THIS ROSE?

The reality TV show "The Bachelorette" is known for being packed with drama, but last year there was just as much scandal among its contestants off-screen as there was while the cameras were rolling. Late in 2020, not one but two past "Bachelorette" contestants ended up in court.

One of them was Chad Johnson, hailing from the group of hunks who competed for Bachelorette JoJo Fletcher's attention in season 12. That season aired in 2016, but it wasn't until two years later that Johnson sued Sunset Studios Entertainment and one of its executives, Cristina Cimino, for sexual harassment, failure to prevent harassment, intentional infliction of emotional distress, fraud by intentional misrepresentation, and wrongful failure to hire in violation of public policy.

According to Deadline, Cimino told Johnson she would help him get movie roles with her studio, but that never happened. Instead, she allegedly lured him into in-person meetings and bombarded him with inappropriate calls and text messages. After years of back-and-forth, the case is finally moving forward. In July 2020, a judge ruled that all of Johnson's accusations were proven except failure to hire. Upping the drama, Deadline reported that "no attorneys for Cimino or the studio participated in the hearing."

Meanwhile, another "Bachelorette" contestant, Luke Parker, has been ordered by the court to pay \$100,000 for breach of contract. Parker, who vied for the affection of Hannah Brown in the 2019 season, has allegedly been making media appearances without the consent of the show's production company, NZK Productions Inc.

Each appearance was a breach of contract, and now he owes the company a pretty penny: \$25,000 per appearance. According to Page Six, Parker might also be on the hook for bad-mouthing the show and/or sharing information about what happened on set — both things his contract forbids.

Hopefully, the 2021 season of "The Bachelorette," which should air later this year following the postponed 2020 season, will feature less drama than these real-life legal battles.

