

# STAYING *in Touch*

January 2017 Newsletter | VOLUME 6 - ISSUE 1 | [www.pzlaw.com](http://www.pzlaw.com)

This publication is intended to educate the general public about various issues. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different.

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- Growth in Norfolk
- New electronics
- Zach's in a band!



**Kellam's Corner:** Welcome to 2017! I hope that everyone survived "Snowmageddon 2017." Quite the snowfall earlier this month, shut the city down for days. Back on track now and things are developing at Parks Zeigler, PLLC, as we are actively looking to add another attorney to the firm, as well as a full-time marketing manager to assist us with our continued growth. We continue to assist our clients with their family law, credit errors/identity theft, personal injury, and small business/civil litigation needs.

We wish you the very best for 2017 and look forward to hearing from you this year.

*Kellam*

## *Family Law*



The terms abandonment and desertion are often misunderstood, but there is a difference, legally speaking. Desertion is a breach of matrimonial duty in which there must be a break from cohabitation, and there must be intent to desert in the mind of the deserter. Abandonment, however, is proven when there is evidence to show that "a person has left his or her spouse, or his or her child(ren) in a destitute or necessitous circumstances" (VA §20-81).



## *Did you know?*

Did you know that in 1942 and 1943 there was no New Year's Eve ball dropping ceremony in NYC due to a wartime dimout? However, that didn't stop crowds from gathering in Times Square, where they observed a moment of silence before celebrating.



*"Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes."*

*— Mahatma Gandhi*

## TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LAW FIRM

As you are aware, we are a paperless office. That being said, we do acknowledge that there are times when we still must print documents for our clients, opposing counsel, and for court proceedings. We enjoy not having multiple file cabinets full of documents gathering dust mites and the paper cuts that come with managing all that paper. We currently scan all incoming documents which are kept secure on both our servers, as well as on the Cloud. When we need to send and/or share documents, they are shared electronically as much as possible. From a business prospective, this is not only more timely in responsiveness and delivery, but also provides great cost savings in supplies and postage.

It is good to see the transition within the courts as well. It may be slow to evolve, but technology is in the courtroom now and will only be advancing in the years to come. Instead of walking into court with boxes of files stuffed with paper notes and exhibits for trial, documents can easily be shown on a screen with a simple click and swipe on a computer or tablet. Our

attorneys bring the case file, in its entirety, to trial knowing that they can access anything when needed from their devices. With our scanned files being word-searchable, it also allows us quick access to thousands of documents to maximize trial efficiency.

One concern for both attorneys and clients alike is the security of file information. Attorney's ethical duties are to ensure reasonable safeguards be in place to while utilizing technology. Because we use an appropriate housing vendor that has proper server security and geosynched locations for our data, our files are much safer than paper files sitting in our office where a break-in, cleaning staff, or a fire can theoretically compromise everything in an instant. Kellam is Co-Chair of the Virginia State Bar Special Committee on the Technology and Practice of Law, regularly traveling the Commonwealth teaching lawyers about technology and the ethical obligations (and how to meet them) regarding same.

*We welcome your referrals!*

*We value our clients and want you to come to us for any legal need you may have, no matter the type of case. If it is in an area we do not practice, we will refer you to a trusted colleague to take care of you as we would. If you refer someone to us, we promise to answer his or her questions and provide first-rate, attentive service. Thank you for your referrals and for continuing to come back to Parks Zeigler.*



## Deb Dishes:

Its coastal Virginia so I really can't say "brrr, its winter," but we have had several soup worthy days this January and I've enjoyed the usual chili and stews. An easy soup we make, especially when we don't feel well, is from my sister-in-law Kathy. The quick version is to take two 32 oz. cartons of chicken stock or broth, add one can of Campbell's tomato soup, add shredded left over chicken to pot and heat. Sometimes we don't even add the chicken. We cook "Pastina" (small pasta), drain and store in separate container to prevent pasta from absorbing the broth. Put as much Pastina as you like in a bowl, add the hot soup mixture and sprinkle parmesan cheese liberally over the top. We like to serve it with homemade cornbread or hot rolls (recipes on [www.pzlaw.com](http://www.pzlaw.com)). I asked around the office and favorites are: Allison - Tomato Basil, Brandon - Corn-Crab Chowder, and Kellam - She Crab soup. Sara has been making the rounds to several restaurants and making notes on local eateries to find the best She-Crab soup, to be posted for you soon. What's your favorite soup recipe? Where do you go for She-Crab soup? Let me know! Email me at [dmontagna@pzlaw.com](mailto:dmontagna@pzlaw.com).

## On The Local Front

### THE NEW NORFOLK

2017 looks to be a big year in terms of commerce and job growth for Norfolk. Over the past few years there has been a lot of planning and negotiations, and the fruits of that labor will soon be evident. Doug Smith, the interim city manager of Norfolk, claims that this year will be a "reintroduction of Norfolk to the region and to the Commonwealth." The most anticipated of these projects is the new Waterside District in downtown Norfolk and it is expected to bring 1,000 permanent jobs. So far, the shops and restaurants that will be included are Cogan's Pizza, Star Hill Brewery, Carolina Cupcakery, Blue Moon TapHouse, Guy Fieri's Smokehouse, The Fudgery, and Rappahannock Oyster Co.

The border of Norfolk and Virginia Beach is the site of the Norfolk Premium Outlets. Ground was broken last year to begin building this 85 shop outlet mall developed by Simon Property Group, the same company behind the outlets in Williamsburg and Potomac Mills. The Norfolk Premium Outlets, slated to open in June, are predicted to create 800 permanent jobs and produce over \$3 million in tax revenue.

In addition, Norfolk will add The Icon, a luxury apartment complex located in the old 24 story Bank of America building predicted to open this fall, and The Main, a Hilton Hotel opening for events in April.

## Family Corner



Zach, our social media content editor is in a band! They are called Mae and the photo shown here is from their recent show in Indonesia. They'll be playing March 11th at The Norva. Learn more on Facebook. (<https://www.facebook.com/mae/>)



Deb was overjoyed to have all her children home for Christmas this year! Pictured here with the grands celebrating Christmas Eve at Kellam's home. The Storm Trooper was a gift for Kellam from their dad.



## Finer Things in Review

Once upon a time Kellam was in the restaurant industry, having been a waiter at The Trellis in Williamsburg while in law school and then later being the first crew to open One Fish Two Fish in Virginia Beach. He learned an incredible amount about wine and spirits and has retained some portion of that, even though he is no longer in the thick of things. He'll share his favorites in the months to come – first share will be diving into his favorite red wine –Red Zinfandel (not to be confused with "White Zinfandel," which is the sweet pink stuff).

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## Tech Tip:

This month is our annual roundup of cool new tech/gadgets coming out of the Consumer Electronics Show (CES), which happens every January.

- LG's OLED W7 TV – LG's new OLED TV is only 2.57mm thick and has four types of HDR support (for future-proofing) and also includes its own Dolby Atmos soundbar.
- LG's InstaView Fridge – The front panel on the door is opaque...until you knock twice on it and then it becomes clear so that you can instantly see what is inside the fridge without having to open it. So cool!
- Griffin Technology Toaster – For those that are toast fanatics, this toaster is Bluetooth connected and its App allows you to control temperature and degree of toastiness, including the ability to save prefer-

ences by user. For the true sandwich connoisseur.

- Zera Food Recycler – WLabs of Whirlpool has created an attractive fertilizer-making device that sits in your kitchen to handle food waste to turn into usable fertilizer. Great sustainable gadget.
- Link Ark Smart Collar – A great innovation for dog lovers. The fashionable collar connects to an App so that you can track your dog, monitor activity/wellness, record your companion's playtime for later viewing so that you don't miss anything, and sound/light remote options for training and safety.

These are just a handful of really cool new tech displayed this year. Lots more to check out, just search "CES 2017" for more.

*New address? New phone number? New Email? Help us stay current by letting us know. Call Deb at 757.453.7579 or email her at [dmontagna@pzlaw.com](mailto:dmontagna@pzlaw.com). If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please call Deb. Thanks!*