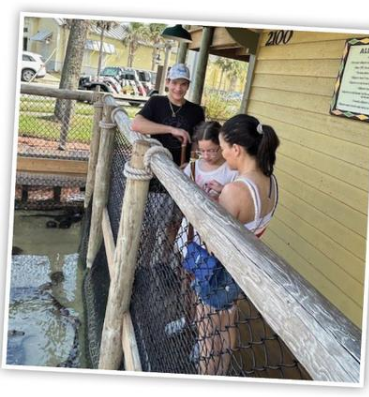


The Road To Justice Starts Here

time flies

By Attorney Michael T. Gibson



what's inside

page 2

Nuevas leyes en la Florida: Parte 2

Time flies (cont.)

page 3

Tahiti — your summer Olympics cohort

Time flies (cont.)

page 4

Don't take our word for it



This Fourth of July was a different one for the Gibson Family. For the second consecutive year, we were unable to make it to our timeshare in Sanibel Island, due to ongoing repairs from the Hurricane two years ago. And in part due to the same, Jen and Eme decided to take part in Eme's Nationals, Year-End dance competition in Daytona Beach. Jen and Eme loaded up and departed for Nationals that Tuesday. That left Brady and I at home to finish out the work week, and most importantly, to care for the youngest, and furriest child, Vladdy. Jen's hotel had a strict, no pets policy. We tried coming up with ways we could sneak Vladdy in, so that Brady and I could spend a few days at the hotel with them. But in the end, I did not want to risk getting them kicked out of the hotel. So, we decided that Brady and I would just stay home. We opted instead to drive out there on the Fourth, and spend a day with them.

I will admit, the thought of not being together on a summer holiday where we are always together got me a bit down. And lately, due to Eme's competitive company dance schedule, and Brady's travel hockey schedule, I feel like we are apart more and more. You throw school in the mix, and life just seems like an endless shuffle of coming and going. The kids' practice schedule during the week, usually means it is 10pm or even 11pm before the four of us are all home and settled for the night. And being that Brady has to be to school by 7am every morning, by the time we all get home and settled, it is usually time for everyone to get to bed. And the weekends do not get any less busy. Usually every other week, Brady and I are off to play somewhere, usually leaving on Friday night, and maybe getting home late Saturday or midday Sunday. And it is this way from August through March.

When we are wrapping up a hockey season, is when dance competition season ramps up. Then it is Jen and Eme, getting up at 5am, to do hair and make up and drive to wherever they are that weekend. So, it is not until usually the end of June or July, usually around the Fourth, when we head to Sanibel, that we actually get a full break from all the hustle and bustle of travel hockey, dance company, school, and everything in between.

For the most part, we are so busy keeping up with all the activities and work, that we do not even realize how busy we are doing all these things. It just becomes second nature.

But on this Fourth of July, my Facebook page sent me one of those memory reminders. And with the reminder, were several pics of the kids that I had taken on various past Fourth of July dates. And one of them in particular stood out. It was a pic from eleven years ago, in 2013, when Eme was just three months old, and Brady was three. It was a pic of Jen holding Baby Eme, with little

[Continues on page 2.](#)

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nuevas leyes en la Florida

PARTE 2

Por Juan Jose Rodriguez, Abogado de Enlace

En el pasado artículo, comentamos sobre una nueva ley firmada por El gobernador de la Florida, Ron Desantis, que impide a menores de 16 años a que tengan cuentas en las redes sociales. Como fue explicado, esta ley impedirá que los niños menores de 16 años abran cuentas en las redes sociales, aunque permitiría a los padres dar su consentimiento para que los niños de 14 y 15 años tengan cuentas.

Existe otras leyes que a partir del 1 de Julio 2024 entraron en vigor, que son la HB 931 y HB 131, con referencia a los Capellanes.

Primeramente, la ley HB 931, les otorga a las escuelas la autoridad de permitir que capellanes voluntarios vayan al campus escolar y ofrezcan apoyo de orientación a los estudiantes, con el consentimiento de los padres. Algo importante - primeramente, tienen que consultar con la junta escolar de su distrito para seguir el protocolo y requisitos establecidos para poder ser parte del cuerpo de capellanes voluntarios en las escuelas públicas ya que Los capellanes serán asignados por la junta escolar del distrito o la junta directiva de la escuela.

La otra ley es la HB 1317, que autoriza a los distritos escolares a permitir las organizaciones cívicas y patrióticas y a sus representantes que hablen con los estudiantes, distribuyan ciertos materiales. También para que brinden oportunidades a ciertas exhibiciones relacionadas con las organizaciones. Por otro lado, exige a algunos distritos escolares que proporcionen fecha y hora para que se den dichas actividades y que autoricen a las organizaciones al acceso a los edificios y propiedades escolares en determinadas circunstancias. Nota importante: En algunos distritos escolares, los cadetes cristianos podrán ser permitidos a tener acceso bajo esta nueva ley. Favor de consultar con su junta escolar para verificar si cualifican.

*** Precaución ***

Instamos a los ministros, capellanes y líderes eclesiásticos a monitorear la aprobación de las organizaciones y de capellanes en sus distritos escolares debido a que existen grandes preocupaciones sobre el acceso a las escuelas de grupos controvertidos, como aquellos que practican el satanismo. Estemos en alerta, ya que estos grupos pueden aprovechar estas nuevas leyes para entrar en las escuelas públicas.

Estas leyes entraron en vigor hace unas semanas, en el 1 de julio del 2024. Que Dios te continúe bendiciendo. ■

"Time Flies" continued from page 1.

toddler Brady at her side. And as I looked at this pic, I quickly thought of a pic I snapped on our day together this Fourth of July. We spent the afternoon getting pizza and then we took the kids to a minigolf place. And of course, as one must do at the minigolf place, we just had to feed the baby alligators they had out front. So while Jen and the kids were doing so, I snapped a quick pic. So, as I was looking at the memories from years gone by, particularly this photo from eleven years ago, I quickly pulled up the pic from that current day. And in comparing the two, it hit me, time really flies.

The pic from 2013 feels like it was just yesterday. I can still remember that time. Back then, it felt like we had to pack just to go out to eat. I mean there were the strollers, the baby bag, the formula, the toys, the diapers, and everything else that seemed to follow us around. It didn't matter if we were going down the street or all the way across the state, you had to prep and pack for everything. And starting at that photo from 2013, I could remember all of that packing and prepping, and my first thought was, boy am I glad those days are over. But then as I scrolled to the pic from today, and I see Brady towering over Jen, and Eme almost as tall as her, it hit me. The journey of parenthood for both Jen and I is rapidly flying by. These kids are no longer little ones, like the photo of 2013. The baby bags are long gone, and so is their need and dependance on us for so many things. The kids are now both young adults, and every day, we are getting closer to them going off and living their own lives.

For me, that reality really hits. As happy as I am to not have anyone in diapers, it does sadden me to think that in just a few short years, both of my kids will be fully grown and out of our house. I am so proud of the young adults both have become. I love watching each of them grow and come into their own. They both show a passion and desire for what they love to do. And they are both funny and witty, but also kind-hearted and loving. Trust me, we are far from perfect parents, and they have made

2 | August 2024 | www.autojusticeattorney.com

Tahiti — YOUR SUMMER OLYMPICS COHOST



France is hosting the Summer 2024 Olympics in all their glory — well, maybe not all. Tahiti will be the site of the surfing competitions.

Tahiti is the main island of French Polynesia, an assemblage of 118 islands and atolls covering over 2 million square miles of ocean territory in the South Pacific. Tahiti became a French protectorate in 1842; all of French Polynesia followed suit in 1880. French Polynesia was designated a French overseas territory in 1946 and then granted autonomy in 1977.

French Polynesians are French citizens who have the right to vote in local, French national, and European elections. The president of France is French Polynesia's head of state and is represented by a high commissioner. This strong Tahitian-French connection led to Olympic collaboration.

Tahiti is famous for its beautiful black sand beaches; lush, mountainous landscapes; pristine waters; vibrant coral reefs; gourmet vanilla beans; and pearl farming. It's also home to the most challenging waves in the surfing world, especially at Teahupo'o. Tahiti is world-renowned for hosting spectacular surfing competitions; France is not.

Many Tahitians were in favor of hosting Olympic surfing: reaping economic benefits, showing off their little corner of the world, etc. But many were opposed, as their deep reverence for their natural surroundings was of paramount importance. In response to concerns, 98% of Olympic housing will take place either in locals' homes or on a nearby cruise ship. A judging tower anchored in the coral reef was scaled back to minimize damage, as sea life and Tahitians' livelihoods are at stake.

The siren call of the Olympics is tough to resist. Tahiti's hope is that their limited role will lead to value without the regret. ■



"Time Flies" continued from page 2.

as many mistakes as anyone else. But I believe, if we have done anything right, it has been to show them love, and the value of family.

I would not usually pick a minigolf course, baking in the hot Florida sun as my dream, ideal day. But on this day, it was the perfect setting for me to pause, reflect, and thank God for the wonderful and awesome gift of this family. That day was a reminder to me that our time with our kids is precious. And during this phase of life, where school and hockey and dance are their primary focus, our time together is even more precious. Jen and I have had to both divide and conquer and split dance and hockey duties to make it work for everyone. And while it is difficult to spend so much time apart, it makes days like this, where we can all be together, all the more meaningful.

So, wherever you are in your journey, as a parent or spouse, or even as a son or daughter, sister or brother, it is never too late to take a day, or an afternoon, or even a moment to let your loved ones and your family know how much you love and appreciate them. It is so easy to lose sight of the same in the endless hustle and bustle of our day-to-day lives. But it is important. Our time on this earth with our loved ones is a precious blessing. We should enjoy it and celebrate whenever we can. It doesn't have to be elaborate, and it can be as simple as just taking a moment to pause and tell them how much you love and care for them.

At this point in my parenting journey, as I look back at these photos and compare them to today, I am so grateful and appreciative of the gift of my wife and kids. It has been the ride of my life. They will always be what matters most to me. I thank God for them every day and ask for his continued blessing over them. ■



www.autojusticeattorney.com | August 2024 | 3

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time flies



SEE PAGE ONE

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don't take our word for it

See What Real Clients Have to Say about Working with Michael T. Gibson, P.A.

I want to take a moment and thank Michael T. Gibson and his law firm for providing us with the highest level of professional and legal counsel available. The advice and representation we received throughout this very difficult process was everything we hoped for and everything you promised us since day one. We will never forget what your staff, especially Patty, did for us throughout the almost three years we invested into our car accident case. None of this would have been possible without your expertise and experience in the PIP law. The dedication given to our case made it seem like our case was the only one being worked on and I believe that's truly amazing. Once again, thank you for your professionalism and for the dedication shown.

— Luis



I had the pleasure of working with Todd Curtin and Kimberly Wise at Mr. Gibson's firm. I was in need of an attorney and called a couple of firms asking to speak with an attorney to answer a few questions.

This firm was the only one that agreed to let me speak with an attorney prior to becoming a client. Mr. Curtin answered all of my questions. Once I signed up as a client, they went to work immediately to make certain all aspects of the case were analyzed, and they saw my case to a positive resolution.

They are very knowledgeable in not just auto cases but many other types of liability cases and know how to get results.

I would highly recommend this firm.

— Shawn



Michael T. Gibson took me on when I didn't have anyone who would take my case. The way he fights is the honest way never making excuses just telling you the way it is. Thank you Mr. Gibson for helping me in my traumatizing time of my life. You were there for me when I needed someone and I am truly grateful for you.

— Patrick ■

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