

The Legal Beagle

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special points of interest:

- Find out how this baby survives after being thrown out a window 17 ft high
- The Probation Officers are now doing random in-home checks to minimize crime
- Why did this man get arrested for no reason at an airport?
- Now available on Facebook and Twitter

Save the Date! Vote For Your Best Candidate!

This year is a big year for the governors of the United States government because it is an election year. For Massachusetts, Deval Patrick is running for reelection for the Democratic Party, Charles D. Baker is



running for the Republican Party, Timothy Cahill is running for the Independent Party and Jill Stein is running for the Green-Rainbow Party. The main issues this year are for casinos, property taxes, education, immigration,



energy, violence, and public savings. To get informed about where all the candidates stand, check out their websites online. The election date is set for **November 2, 2010**, so make sure your voice is heard and get out there and vote!



Gunned Down at Bus Stop

The city of Boston has cracked down on illegal gun possession. This is mainly because of the recent string of shootings that have left eleven teens dead. Soheil Turner (pictured at right) was the seventh youth that was murdered. He was waiting for the bus to go to



school and was shot in the head twice. Xzenieju Chukwuezi was found guilty of this murder after less than a day of deliberation by the jury. There were witness accounts and surveillance video of the shooting. He was rushed to the hospital and spent the last remaining hours

surrounded by his family, who were all crying and apologizing for not being able to protect him. The trial was very heated and many people even had to be escorted out because they could not stop yelling. The worst thing about this case was that there was no explanation of why it happened. Chukwuezi was sentenced to life for his actions.

Teen Mom Throws Baby Out a Window

A teen mom from East Boston is being charged with assault and battery of a child and reckless endangerment of a child. She didn't tell anyone, not even her mother, the fact that she was pregnant and gave birth to a son in her bathtub. She cut the umbilical cord with a bread tie and threw the baby boy out the second story window into an



alley. The authorities found the baby with hypothermia and serious brain injuries that are most likely long lasting. The mother and her family is here illegally and have only been here for about three months. The teen mom has said that she wanted to take care of her baby boy, which she names Angel, at the hospital,

but will probably face deportation after her trial. The state is looking for a family for the baby with special training for brain injuries. Many are wondering why the teen didn't utilize the safe haven fire station that was less than a half a block from her apartment. This case has also raised many questions about the immigration policies, especially regarding public schooling, as she was enrolled in Boston Public High School for the three months she was here.

UMass Memorial to Cut 350 Jobs

The economy is still in a recession and the unemployment rate is stuck at a very high 10%. The medical field has not been hit too hard by this yet. However, UMass Memorial Health Care Hospitals are going to be cutting 350 jobs from their five locations. This is about 2.6% of its workforce, which would make it the largest hospital cutback in Massachusetts this year. UMass' financial problems are proof of how poorly the economy is still doing

because at one point, it seemed like this industry was immune to cutbacks. Since UMass treats many patients that are low-income, they are feeling the money pinch the most. It is unfortunate because the hospitals are usually packed. The system's budget for their twelve-month year, which ended in September, shows that they



are \$85 million below the financial target for the year. The Hospital says they will reduce costs but increase quality of care. The hospital's spokesperson said they are worried about how the relationship between the hospitals and the health care union is going to be in this upcoming year.

Officials Caught Taking Bribes

Back in 2007 and 2008, State Senator Dianne Wilkerson and Councilor Chuck Turner were accused of taking bribes. There are photographs of Wilkerson putting ten \$100 bills in her shirt and of Turner taking an alleged \$1000 from a businessman.



Recently, US District Court Judge Douglas P. Woodlock began interviewing prospective jurors for this trial. It is difficult, especially according to Turner's lawyer who is using this as part of the defense, but the pictures were made public right after the

arrest and the media caused everyone to have a bias. Not many people heard too much about this case, but now it is being brought to light because the trial is set to have started by the first of the month.

Probation Officers Cracking Down

The city of Boston is cracking down with people that are on probation. Probation Officers (PO) are now allowed to make random in-home checkups on their probationers. This tactic was put in place because of the increase in killings lately, especially the



murders of 4 people including a toddler. This fall the Probation Officers started showing up late at night, between 10pm and 2am, to the homes of the people that they supervise. The probation

officer is allowed to go into the house without a warrant, but outside, he is protected by gang unit officers because they can carry guns for protection. The hope for this new initiative is that the probationers will think twice about missing curfew or doing something they know is wrong because they do not know when their PO is going to show up.

Legal Residency for Same Sex Marriages



Aurelio Tine and Greg Gould are in the middle of preparing for their

wedding and a lawsuit. Gould is going to apply for citizenship for his new husband, who is a native of Venezuela. They are expecting to get rejected

because the US government does not recognize same sex marriages in the path to legal residency for immigrants who marry Americans. Their lawyer, who is a long-time gay activist, says that the rejection letter will be evidence of discrimination. This is a major controversy for the two issues of immigration and same-sex marriages. Only 5 states have legalized same sex marriages and many people still

believe that marriage should be between a man and a woman. They are strong on their opinion that the laws should be based on how marriage is defined in the court. Currently there are over 12,000 couples in the US where neither partner is a US citizen. Tine's deportation hearing is set for December and hopefully, it will not turn into a lawsuit that is too in depth.

False Arrested

Josh Ashcroft is the attorney general who approved of a policy that led to the arrest of Abdullah al-Kidd. Kidd was an all-American boy growing up and converted to Islam after he graduated college. When he was going through security at an International Airport outside of Washington D.C., he was arrested because he was going to Saudi Arabia. He was strip searched and then spent 16

days in detention and then remained under strict restrictions for the next 14 months. He was one of 70 people that have been detained under this new law that would ensure material witnesses to appear in court. Kidd was never called to testify in court nor was he ever charged with a crime. Judges are meeting with Kidd to see if they can take the attorney general to court.



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 To be ever mindful of the fact that our client's welfare is paramount; To recognize that our system of justice is dependant upon each of us to abide by the Canons of Ethics and the rules of the various courts; and, To adhere to the highest standards of excellence and integrity within our conduct and services in both our professional and personal lives.*

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