

The Legal Beagle

Inside this issue:

Minority the Majority	2
Winter Storm Damages in the Millions	2
Local Towns Deal with Increased Gas Prices	2
NFL Takes Pay Decrease	3
Polls Report America Supports Gay Marriage	3
Shaq Sworn In	3
Now Available on Facebook and Twitter	4

special points of interest:

- The white population is decreasing in Massachusetts
- With gas prices increasing, what are our towns going to do?
- America is seen to have a more open mind about gay marriage
- Now available on Facebook and Twitter

Prominent Boston Attorney Charged

Robert Albert George, a prominent defense attorney in the Boston area was charged with laundering drug money by the federal authorities. George allegedly conspired with someone, who was working with the federal investigation, to launder a quarter million dollars between the years of 2009 and 2011. This high profile attorney was first caught by chance. He

informed one of his former clients from 2001, who is now a paid informant for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), that he knew of someone that could help him launder \$100,000 in two or three days. The DEA went to this person, who at first denied the money laundering, but then cooperated in the case against George. George

is also being charged with paying the informant to bring him new clients. Many other attorneys are denouncing him as a lawyer saying that it impedes the administration of justice and is unethical as a law-abiding member of the bar.



Boston PD Dispatch Falling Asleep on the Job

In 2010, the Boston Police Department's dispatchers were issued the most citations for disciplinary problems. This



statistic was obtained by the Freedom Information Act. The dispatcher unit is made up of 189 people, mostly civilians, who answer the 911 calls. They are the first people that the people of Boston talk to when they have an emergency. But, lately, these people have not been doing their job. Last year alone there were 87 suspensions for people not doing their job

professionally. These incidents include; falling asleep while taking a call that was reporting gunshots fired, failing to send units fast enough to a scene of break-ins or

victims of a fight to wait over twenty minutes to get medical attention and fighting so loudly in the background that it can be heard through police radios. 13% of the 161 civilian staff has been documented on abusing their sick time. Some examples of these incidents are the 911 call-taker sent police to the right street address but in a different neighborhood, so a

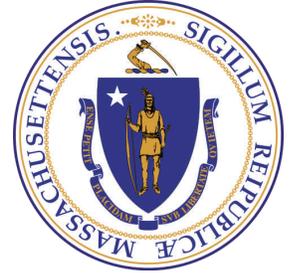
homicide victim was there for fifteen minutes. Another time, the call-taker told the dispatcher and police that it was not a high priority, but an elderly man was severely beaten and robbed. This man waited in his house, hurt, for thirty-five minutes for police to show up. The spokeswoman for the BPD comments and says that even though they have their problems, many of their employees excel at their job, even under the stressful conditions. She says that they work eight hour days fielding over 1,000 phone calls and believes that they are not only qualified, but valued.

Minority the Majority

According to new demographic data from the US Census, Massachusetts' white population is declining rapidly. Over the past decade, Lawrence's white population has fallen by more than one-third, Chelsea's dropped by 34%, Springfield lost 17,000 white people, and Brockton and Worcester each dropped more than 14,000 white people. This trend is being seen

all over Massachusetts. 43 out of 45 major communities have seen declines in the white population. Peabody and Franklin are the only ones not to have seen this decrease. Fourteen of these communities have dropped in double digit percentages. The groups which used to be minorities are now the majority in major cities across Massachusetts, such as Boston, Worcester, Springfield, Lowell and Cambridge.

These cities have all expanded and grown as their white population has dwindled. The number of Asians and Hispanics increased 46% and the black population climbed 26%.



Winter Storm Damage in the Millions

This winter has been brutal with all of the snow and some towns are still trying to pay for it! The December 26th Nor'easter caused over \$4 million in damages for the town of Situate. Town officials recently found out that the federal government was not going to help to pay for the damages either. This news means that the town will have to



dip into their reserved funds and shifting budgets around to help pay for this. This will be brought up for a vote at the next town meeting. In order to qualify for federal aid, the state needed to have \$8.3 million in damages, which Massachusetts missed by \$2 million. Unfortunately, Situate got the worst of the damages from the storm and

has the highest amount of damages in the state. None of the residents even qualified for federal help for fixing their houses. This town is going to have some financial troubles for a little while, as they will indeed have to dip into the reserve funds, but the taxes for their residents will not be affected.

Local Towns Deal With Increased Gas Prices

Massachusetts gas prices have been on the rise and this summer it has been expected to be more than four dollars! This means that the cities have to plan for this and adjust their budgets. Many towns have added thousands of dollars to their budget for the next fiscal year. As for this year, many towns are praying that their budget will last them through June 30th, which is the end of this fiscal year. For example, in Millbury, MA, the town manager is proposing the

fuel budget for the 2012 fiscal year as \$155,000, which is up 24% from this year. This year that budget was \$125,000 and in 2010, the budget was only \$115,000. The town has upgraded many of their emergency and town vehicles to more fuel efficient ones, which will help with the cost. Police Officers will also be asked not to let their cruisers stay idle. A lot of other Massachusetts towns are doing the same to cut back on gas. Fitchburg uses motorcycles in the warm weather,



and replacing the unmarked cars with more efficient cars. Not only is this a problem for

your local town, you also have to plan for it, as the gas prices will be going up for everyone!

NFL Takes Pay Decrease

Not only have the players taken a pay decrease, the NFL commissioner, Roger Goodell, and the league general counsel, Jeff Pash, have taken a pay cut too. During the lockout, they have each agreed to a \$1 salary, each! Normally, Goodell earns about ten million a year and Pash earns about five million, including



bonuses. In 2009, there was already a pay cut which cut 20% of his pay. If this work stoppage continues into August, even more cuts will have to be made. For executive vice presidents, the cut will take away 25% of their salary; 20% for senior vice presidents, 15% for vice presidents, 10 % for directors, and 5% for managers. These and other

league staff just took a pay cut in 2009 of 15%. Many of the teams are implementing a furlough, or a leave of absence from work, for their players in the offseason. This should help with the pay cuts. If the entire 2011 season is played, there will be reimbursement. So, for the players and the fans, let all hope that the whole 2011 season is played!

Polls Report America Supports Same Sex Marriages

A change in a national opinion is showing how the United States is becoming more open-minded. A Washington Post-ABC News poll reports that now 53% of the nation believes that homosexual marriages should be legalized. This marks the first time that the Post-ABC News poll has shown that the majority has said this. Five years ago, this same poll found that only 36% of Ameri-



cans supported gay marriages.

These results show that our nation is becoming more tolerant about homosexuality and it proves that the latest gay right advocates and legislations have been victorious in their campaigning. Many pro-gay marriage groups believe that people are now just coming around to seeing that homosexual relationships are about "loving,

committed families" and people realize that it is unfair to treat them differently. Some that oppose these marriages reinforce the fact that all the 31 states that had the same-sex marriage question on the ballot, voted to ban it. Although there are some contradicting facts, it is clear that the nations view, as a whole, is growing to be more tolerant and open-minded about same sex marriages.

Shaq Sworn In

Boston Celtics center, Shaquille O'Neal, was sworn in to be a reserve deputy sheriff in Worcester on March 24, 2011 through the Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff Association. This NBA all star has been an active member in the

community and very involved in charitable work. He will be the first member to be sworn in by Sheriff Evangelidis. This move is in hopes that other people will give back to the



community and volunteer by following Shaq's lead. The association (WCRDSA) wants to stress that they are committed to giving back to the community and that is why they picked Shaq to be sworn in first.

Law Office of Attorney James P. Hentz, P.C.

Main Office:
Executive Park Suites
255 Park Avenue
Suite 1000, 10th Floor
Worcester, MA 01609

Office: 508.797.3022
Fax: 508.797.3096

We're on the Web!
www.jhentzlaw.com



Law Office of James P. Hentz

We, at the law firm of Attorney James P. Hentz, adopt this doctrine as our Mission Statement:

To provide our clients with the highest quality in legal services; To provide our community with support without regard to compensation; To recognize our commitment to justice and fairness in our dealings with all; To recognize that each of us has worth that transcends our job descriptions and thus we must treat each other as we would have others treat us.

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.

Now Available on Facebook and Twitter

The Law Office of Attorney James P. Hentz is now available online at [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) as well as [Twitter.com](https://www.twitter.com).

In a fast paced environment, we want to keep up with the times and allow you to see us and our team.

Facebook as well as Twitter will allow us to expand our reach and meet the needs of our clients and potential clients.

Please feel free to visit us and let us know what you think of our site. We welcome your feedback.

At the Law Office of Attorney James P. Hentz we recognize the need to contact an attorney in "real time".

If sending us an email via Facebook or

Twitter or our email account is not your preferred method of communication, call Attorney Hentz on his cell at 508.527.5161.

We are here because of you and will work hard to add you to our list of satisfied clients.

"Our focus is to make reaching us easy from any location and in real time" www.facebook.com/JHentzAtty

facebook

twitter