



**PARKER LAW FIRM: The Attorneys You Want But Hope You Never Need**

**Message From Brad**

I can still see in my mind the “Sting Ray” bicycle that I had in about the fourth or fifth grade. It had the banana-style seat colored in tiger print with the “Easy Rider” handle bars. What a cruising machine! My buddies and I were the kings of 52nd Street in Lubbock where I grew up. There was not a wheelie I could not ride or a jump that I would not attempt – sometimes to an unexpected road rash.

After those grade school years, I never really rode a bike again until I attended UT in Austin. I would strap the “10-Speed” to the bike rack on the back of my car and then park as close to campus as I could, which usually was several blocks away, and then ride on to class on my bike. Even back then, Austin was a great place to ride. There were several trails that would take you all over the city and allow you to explore nature and navigate downtown without having to fight traffic.

I still love to ride a bike, but the fact that my bike hangs from the ceiling in the garage collecting dust is probably a testament to the memories rather than the reality of my enjoyment of the sport.

While my bike prowess may have declined, the general love of riding by many locals certainly has not. You see bicyclists more and more on the city streets, and many communities have added designated bike lanes for the cyclists. Fort Worth and Dallas both have companies that rent bikes by the hour, and you routinely see these bikes in the downtown and trending areas of the city. Additionally, there are now miles and miles of bike trails in the metropolitan area linking almost the entire region in some form or another. In fact, there are many more trails being constantly developed.

Kami, our marketing director, commented to me that May is National Bike Month, which is what

sparked my thinking about the days of yesteryear. I have been meaning for months (well maybe years) to start riding my bike again for fun and exercise on the weekends. I think that it would be really fun and exciting to ride on some of the trails in the area. Stacie and I are daring one another to get the bikes down from the ceiling hooks, pump up the tires and set out for a trail ride before it gets too hot.

So think about getting out into the fresh air and riding your bike. Your bike truly was made for more than just hanging from hooks in the ceiling. If you do go for a ride, be safe. Try and stay on the trails and always wear a helmet. I would also suggest not trying any wheelies or jumps. None of us are getting any younger.

Until Next Time,  
Brad



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## In the Community

Parker Law Firm is a proud sponsor of Airport Area YMCA 2018 Youth Sports. Here's what's happening over the next few months!

- Hit a grand slam this season in the Youth baseball program!  
Spring Baseball  
Dates: May 5, 2018 – June 23, 2018  
Ages: 3-8
- Join the YMCA summer basketball league now through June 9, 2018. Ages 3 – 15. For more details on program dates, visit [ymcafw.org](http://ymcafw.org).



### Client Testimonial

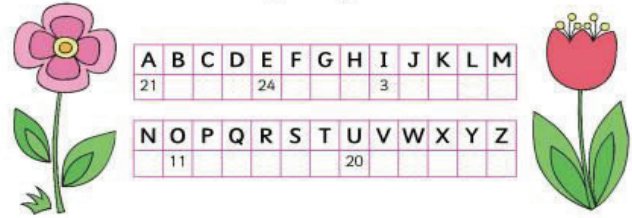
*“Brad, Angela and their team are very professional and do a good job of communicating their action plan for your case. They are good about following up and providing updates...”*

—Di Butler of Fort Worth



## Mother's Day Cryptogram

Can you solve this cryptogram?  
The answer is a quote by Abraham Lincoln.



A \_ \_ \_ \_ A \_ I A O  
21 16 16 6 9 21 6 3 21 5 11 19

E \_ E \_ \_ O E \_ O E ,  
24 7 24 19 9 11 23 24 6 11 25 24

I O E \_ O \_ \_ A \_ E \_  
3 11 22 24 6 11 5 8 21 1 4 24 16

\_ O \_ E \_  
5 11 6 9 24 19

## Case Study: Bikers Beware



May is National Bike Month. I hope you have a chance to get out and enjoy the numerous trails that literally connect substantial portions of the Metroplex. But when you do ride, please be ever mindful of safety and stay off the streets as much as possible. Drivers do not pay enough attention to bike riders and are easily angered by the riders for just using the road. On top of that, an extremely large number of drivers are driving distracted – using their smartphones.

My best friend in law school was killed while riding his bike on the shoulder of an access road in a rural part of the county. Witnesses said that the car that hit him just drifted off onto the shoulder

striking him. The young woman driving was not paying attention because she was messing around with her cell phone. In these situations, we can often download the ECM (engine control unit) to prove the speed of the car and braking times. We can also download the persons phone or obtain cell phone records to demonstrate that the driver was using their phone and clearly distracted. Even when we can prove the distraction, there is all too often only minimal insurance coverage available. The state minimum of \$30,000 limits of insurance is just a drop in the bucket compared to the human tragedy incurred.

I filed suit on behalf of the devastated family against the young woman that killed my friend, and we ultimately got it resolved. Notwithstanding, no amount of money will ever bring my friend back to his wife and two sons. If you do bike on the streets and roadways, do everything in your power to be safe. But remember that no amount of precaution on your part can prevent someone else's distracted driving. You must remain ever vigilant.



## Safety on Two Wheels

May is Bicycle Awareness Month, which is celebrated each spring in communities across the nation. It's time to remind drivers that they must share the roads and encourage bicyclists to practice safety while navigating the streets.

Fort Worth is leading the charge in North Texas with more than 60 miles of bike lanes, up from fewer than 10 miles in 2010. Fort Worth Bike Sharing, a nonprofit program that has 350 red bicycles available for rent at 44 racks in areas such as downtown, the Cultural District and the south side, has logged nearly 100,000 rides in the last few years.

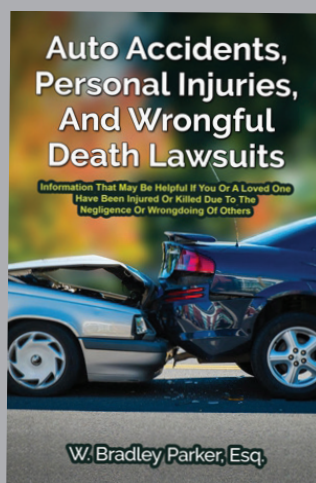
The city has also begun a \$1.26 million program to improve cycling safety in several areas, mostly south of downtown. Elsewhere in Tarrant County, the hope is that the gradual acceptance of bikes will spread to the suburbs, eventually creating a web of streets and trails that will make it possible to go anywhere in the Metroplex on two wheels.

Stay safe by following these simple bike safety tips:

- Wear Proper Safety Gear
- Maintain Your Bike Regularly (Brakes, Frame, Reflectors, Tires, Wheels)
- Operate Your Bike Safely and Follow Road Rules
- Wear Bright Colors
- Go With the Flow of Traffic

- Stay in Bike Lanes
- Use Appropriate Hand Signals
- Yield to Pedestrians
- Look Both Ways at Intersections
- Ride Single File in Groups
- Avoid Riding at Night if Possible
- Use Lights and Reflectors
- Do NOT Wear Headphones While Riding
- Plan Routes and Inform Family
- Carry a Bike First Aid Kit

If you or someone you know needs information about their legal rights in personal injury matters, download Brad's free book on *Auto Accidents, Personal Injuries and Wrongful Death Lawsuits* at [parkerlawfirm.com/reports/](http://parkerlawfirm.com/reports/). We are here to help!



## Memorial Day BBQ Essentials Tex-Mex Grilled Burgers

Prep time: 25 m | Cook time: 15 m | Ready in: 40 m

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons Cajun seasoning
- 1 1/3 pounds ground beef sirloin
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and chopped
- 1/2 cup diced white onion
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 4 slices pepperjack cheese
- 4 hamburger buns, split
- 4 leaves lettuce
- 4 slices tomato

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat grill to medium-high heat. In a large bowl, mix together ground sirloin, jalapeño, onion, garlic, Cajun seasoning, Worcestershire sauce. Divide and flatter into patties.
2. Place patties on grill and cook about 5 min each side or until done. During the last 2 min, lay a slice of cheese on each patty. Finish by placing burgers on buns and top with lettuce, tomato and seasoned mayonnaise.



## Let's Get Social

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Linked In and Google Plus. Also check out [parkerlawfirm.com](http://parkerlawfirm.com) for regularly updated blogs and videos.



## Memorial Day Fun Fact

It's estimated that approximately 32 million people travel by car over Memorial Day weekend. Stay safe on the roadways!



### Parker's Poll

Each month Brad produces Bar Talk videos on FAQs. Are you more interested in hearing details about car accidents or trucking accidents? Let us know! Please email suggestions to [kami@parkerlawfirm.com](mailto:kami@parkerlawfirm.com).

### Trivia Treasures

Memorial Day was once called by another name? Which of the following was the former name?

- A. Military Remembrance Day
- B. Decoration Day
- C. Soldier's D-Day

If you answer correctly, you will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win two free tickets for admission to a local movie theater. Call the firm at 817.330.8611 or email Kami Fox at [kami@parkerlawfirm.com](mailto:kami@parkerlawfirm.com) before May 21 to participate. *Our April trivia challenge winner was Brian Swafford of Grand Prairie. Congratulations, Brian!*