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I Didn't See That Coming by Chris Earley

"Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing." - Aristotle

As I wrote about last month, I was recently given a monthly column in Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly which is the newspaper that reaches just about every lawyer in Massachusetts. When my first column was published in this paper it was thrilling. I was so excited. Then, something happened that I definitely didn't see coming.

Right after that first article was published, I received an email from someone who had read the column and disagreed quite sharply with what I had written. It was a nasty email. I instantly panicked. Had I made a mistake? Was the article too controversial? What had I done? It didn't really matter because the article was already published. The toothpaste was out of the tube. However shocked I was at that moment,

I knew then though that I was

from this reader.

doing something right because I

had evoked such a strong response

W &

Stay your true worth always, no matter how much you may be tested.

Life is funny. Following that critical email, I received other emails complimenting the article which validated for me that I was on the right path. I reminded myself then to stop questioning myself. I don't care or strive to make all people happy. Even if I wanted to, it would not be possible.

There will always be people that criticize you, or doubt you. Ignore them because it is just noise. Stay your true north always, no matter how much you may be tested. After all, your true authentic life is the only life worth living.

- Chris Earley

9 Small Business Must-do's

by Chris Earley

I really love being an entrepreneur and running a business. Do you run a business? Are you thinking of starting a business? Here are some things I have learned after running a business for many years that I hope you find helpful:

- **1 Get your head right.** Mindset is EVERYTHING.
- 2 Discover your core values and write them down. Core values are crucial and will drive and make easier all your decisions.
- 3 Give your client/customer/patient the best experience possible. Show them the love and go the extra mile.



Here are some things I have learned after running a business for many years that I hope you find helpful.

- **4 Be different with your marketing.** If you are doing what everyone else is doing, then your marketing is by definition average.
- **5 Hire slow. Really slow.** Ask curveball questions during an interview. Ignore references (why would an applicant give you a bad reference?).
- **6 Fire fast.** Would you enthusiastically re-hire this person again? If the answer is no, do yourself and the person a favor and cut ties today and move on.
- 7 Know your numbers.
- **8** Guard your time like a hawk.
- **9 Delegate as much as you can,** and then delegate some more.

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WHAT'S NEW AT THE OFFICE



Congratulations to Payton, M. A. G., Natasha T., Marleny B., Erin O., and Stacia R. for winning a \$50.00 Amazon gift card in our recent giveaway. Way to go, guys!

I am pleased to announce that we recently, for the second time in two years, have doubled our office space. This was only possible due to two things: My great team, and our great clients. Thank you so much for being part of our Extended Family.

We are pleased to welcome Hannah as our newest team member! She is our new Marketing Assistant and we are really excited to have her on our team!



Care to Share?

If you have recently had a big life-changing experience (birth of a child or grandchild, marriage, wedding anniversary, engagement, graduation, new job or promotion, etc.) email me at cearley@chrisearley.com because we want to celebrate you in next *The Earley Edition*. Don't be shy!





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Thank You For Your Referrals!

This month, we'd like to thank Troy J., Lazaro L., Francisco M., Darlene M., Candy F., Ida C., Vincent S., and Edward T. for believing we are the right firm to help their friends and family. Your continued support gives us the ability to reach more individuals and make a positive difference in their lives. If we can help anyone you know that needs our services, please send them our way!

Quote of the Month

"If you're going through hell keep going."

- Winston Churchill





Rory Earley

RORY'S RECIPES: Fruit Skewers on a Pumpkin

Keeping with the theme of back-to-school recipes, here's a fun and healthy way to bring a Halloween snack either to the classroom, or your own kitchen! Easy to make and definitely a crowd favorite!

INGREDIENTS:

Assorted melon

Grapes

Marshmallow

Wooden skewers

Edible ink pen (Amazon!)

Sharpie

Big pumpkin

DIRECTIONS:

- / Start with a whole pumpkin and just create a fun Jack-o-lantern face with the Sharpie.
- 2 Next, use a melon baller to make small balls out of all the melons, then assemble them on the skewer in a cute pattern.
- 3 With the edible marker create ghosts faces on the marshmallows, and stick them on the end of the skewer.



Happy Halloween!

4 Then, assemble them all onto the pumpkin! Each skewer can be an individual serving for each kid! Happy Halloween!