



TECHGEAR

The iPhone 5 (starting at \$199 with contract) has a new ARM processor that makes it twice as fast as the iPhone 4S, and it's lighter and thinner. The phone also includes a new camera and taller screen.

WEBLINKS



EMILY FROST is a fifth-generation Texas lawyer. She is board certified in labor and employment law and handles commercial and employment litigation in Austin and Central Texas. Her blog, *Texas Business Matters*, can be found at www.texasbusinessmatters.com.

Dropbox (dropbox.com)

Dropbox allows me to share large files with ease. A client can put its documents in the Dropbox and from there my e-discovery provider can load them straight into a database for me to review. No more discs, flash drives, paper, or emails that are too big to go through. Love it.

FreshBooks (freshbooks.com)

FreshBooks is the easiest timekeeping and billing system in the world. It is cloud-based so you can enter your time from anywhere. It is also reasonably priced.

TED Talks (ted.com/talks)

This is where I go for inspiration. "Riveting talks by remarkable people, free to the world." Total brain candy.

Burn Note (burnnote.com)

If you like pretending that you are James Bond, you will love Burn Note. It allows you to send messages that self-destruct. My best friend and I, who in middle school used to pass each other notes written in code, are now users of Burn Note. It's easier than creating/using your own alphabet.

The Enterprising Lawyer: Rocky Dhir of Dallas

BY MERRILYN ASTIN TARLTON

Who are these "enterprising lawyers?" Actually, they are easy to spot. Look for the happier, more engaged lawyers. Deeply invested in the power of the work they do for their clients, they also have ample interests beyond the practice of law. And they seem to have more energy for getting things done than anyone in the crowd. You probably know one or two — you may even be one yourself!

In this interview, I talk with **Rocky Dhir** of Atlas Legal Research, LP, and Dhir & Associates, Dallas. Dhir is a global innovator in legal-process outsourcing.

Why did you want to be a lawyer?

To be perfectly honest, I went to law school in order to have a "backup plan." My real dream was to be an entertainer — singer, actor, stand-up comedian, and the like. I am pretty good at celebrity impersonations and used to perform a lot when I was younger. I had these grandiose visions of becoming a celeb. Then, once I started working in the law, I found that I really liked it. Today, perhaps more than ever before, the legal profession is changing, making it an exciting environment for disruptors like me.

What is the focus of your law practice?

I founded Atlas Legal in 2000. The idea was to outsource labor-intensive legal work to India. I have been told that Atlas Legal was the first company in the world to do that. At the time, no one knew what to call our practice. Today, it is referred to as "legal process outsourcing." Who knew we were spawning an entire industry? Atlas no longer outsources strictly to India. We have lawyers both in the United States and in India. We perform legal research, draft trial and appellate briefs, review litigation documents, summarize and manage contracts, summarize depositions, and do just about anything that corporate legal departments and law firms need help with.



Rocky Dhir is a Dallas lawyer and founder of Atlas Legal Research, LP, and the principal of Dhir & Associates. Contact him at www.atlaslegal.com.

In my law practice at Dhir & Associates, I am a business litigator, and I assist start-up companies with legal compliance and conflict management. Practicing law makes me more effective in my role at Atlas, and seeing the variety of cases we handle at Atlas makes me a better practicing lawyer. It's a wonderful symbiosis.

What is the real reason clients hire you?

With Atlas, clients hire the company, not me. I prefer it that way. The focus needs to be on the group, not the individual. Clients initially hire Atlas because they are looking to save money.

In my law practice, clients hire me for out-of-the-box strategic thinking. I try to apply that not only to the actual substance of the representation, but also to helping clients achieve their business goals while still getting what I hope is top-flight representation.

Who was your most important mentor and, briefly, what did he or she teach you?

My primary mentor in the law was the late Hon. Jerry Buchmeyer, for whom I clerked after law school. He was the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Judge