
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everyone:

Well, I almost made it to the ACA conference and back without any travel stories, BUT my luck ran out. It actually ended up being okay, but it did get a little exciting for a little while. I had stored my luggage at the hotel on the day we were leaving, and when it was time for me to get the luggage and go to the airport, I handed my luggage claim ticket to the bellman. After 10 minutes I began to wonder what happened to the bellman with my luggage. After another 10 minutes passed, I was thinking that he (and my luggage) should have been there by then, and I told my friends who were going to the airport with me to wait, that I needed to find my luggage.

So the search began. The staff looked everywhere first, then they came and got me and we looked everywhere again. We searched every storage area, upstairs, downstairs and the basement. No luggage. Then I had to describe in detail who I gave the claim ticket to. Not only the luggage, but the guy I gave the claim ticket to, was gone, not to be found again. I told the hotel management that whoever had my luggage probably threw it away pretty quickly, as there was nothing in it anyone would want. So, as the investigative work began, management sent us to eat lunch so they could complete their investigation into where the luggage could have gone.

After my lunch, courtesy of the hotel, I got a call on my cell phone, from the driver of a taxi - at the airport - with my luggage. The bellman that nobody knew, or someone, apparently threw my luggage into someone else's cab and off it went. The cab driver tried to get the people in his taxi to take the luggage with them and that was when the mistake was discovered. Luckily I have a tag on my luggage with my cell phone number on it. The taxi returned to the hotel and I got my luggage and made my flight - on time. Dodged a bullet this time. But it was a little exciting for a little while.

The lesson, everyone, is to be sure you fill out those little tags and put them on your luggage. And remember to put your cell phone number on them.

The ACA conference was well attended. There must have been 3,000 people there. There were a lot of good workshops and I came back with several ideas for how to improve some of our programs.

I'm told it was a fairly quiet week around here. Everybody was just doing what they needed to do. We'll be back in full force next week.

And - school is back in session for the kids. I do not remember starting school this early in the year when I was a kid. It seems like we started after Labor Day. But, we also did not have LEAP tests back then. Sister Patricia would just whack us with a ruler if we did not pay attention. We "learnt" what we need to "learnt" from September to May. Things were a lot different back then. Of course, we did not ride bikes with helmets either. I'm surprised that any of us made it to adulthood.

Well, the weekend is here and I wish each of you a good one. I hope you can enjoy these late summer weekends. As ever, my thanks to every member of the OJJ family, in whichever office you serve, for all you do to meet the mission.

Sincerely,

"Doc" *Dr. Mary Livers*

Mary L. Livers, MSW, PH.D, Deputy Secretary

Office of Juvenile Justice • PO Box 66458 • Baton Rouge, LA 70896 • e: Whatsupdoc?OJJ@la.gov • www.ojd.louisiana.gov