



Bradford Bernstein On Air

BRADFORD BERNSTEIN

MAKING THE AMERICAN DREAM COME TRUE

BY ANNE GRENIER

Attorney Bradford “Brad” Bernstein is a leader in the area of immigration law and among the most educated and exciting voices in his field. This “Super Lawyer”® offers expertise not only through his practice, the Law Offices of Spar & Bernstein but also as co-host of *The Brad and Squeeze Show*, which has been assisting immigrants in the Greater New York area and around the world via digital broadcast.

Along with helpful tips for those seeking residency and citizenship in the U.S., the show welcomes questions (via phone calls or Facebook comments) in real-time. “The show’s team works tirelessly to churn out compelling stories of people all over the world chasing their American Dream,” says Bernstein. It is broadcast digitally via Facebook Live daily during weekdays, at 5:30 -7:30 PM (EST).

INSPIRING TALES

Take Antoinette Tuff, who saved hundreds of children after talking down a shooter at an Atlanta school four years ago. Since then, Antoinette has used her platform to write a book, *Prepared for a Purpose*, and share her unexpected journey to inspire others to find the hero within themselves. “Her message of faith and self-love left us moved to tears for nearly the entire segment,” he went on to say. Antoinette Tuff’s inspiring true story was made into a Lifetime movie, *Faith Under Fire* starring Toni Braxton.

On a lighter note, Jamaican-born recording artist Shaggy stopped by to discuss his journey to the American Dream. Bernstein explained how charitable the superstar was with the creation of the Shaggy Foundation and its flagship charity event, the Shaggy and Friends Music Festival, which benefits the Bustamante Hospital for Children in Kingston, Jamaica.

Bernstein also remembers one of the first guests, U.S. veteran Hector Barajas, who was unjustly deported. “Eventually Hector used his experience as a springboard to start the Deported Veterans Support House for other veterans in Tijuana.” In another episode, former *Real Housewife of New York*, Aviva Drescher, discussed her family’s pursuit of the American Dream. It was with the incredible work she has done as the spokesperson for the One Step Ahead Foundation which provides access to prosthetic limbs for disabled children around the world. “All guests have been an incredible mix of inspiring, hilarious, and heartbreaking stories—but always compelling,” says Bernstein.

THE BEGINNING

The Brad & Squeeze Show was born 20 years ago when Bernstein started fielding questions on immigration on the radio. A good number of his listeners were those who lacked traditional access to legal assistance. David “Squeeze” Annakie was the radio DJ at the time and would join Bernstein on the air on Friday evenings for a five-minute segment on immigration. “We became fast friends and after I convinced him to let me handle his own citizenship situation, Squeeze was sold. By 2001, Squeeze and I had turned our

weekly five-minute segment into a successful one-hour daily radio show,” he told us.

Then in 2017, Bernstein decided to broadcast the show live on Facebook from his phone, and a full professional studio quickly followed. “Today, the show is exclusively digitally broadcast on Facebook Live. I’ve had the privilege of helping hundreds of thousands of listeners and viewers with their immigration issues,” says Bernstein.

THE FIRM

After graduating from the University of Michigan in 1990 with a degree in Political Science, Bernstein enrolled at Brooklyn Law School, from which he graduated with honors in 1993. He then joined his grandfather Harry Spar’s immigration law firm, with the intention of eventually striking out on his own. Weeks after opening his private practice, however, a family health emergency brought Bernstein back to Spar’s firm, where he soon discovered a passion for immigration law. Bernstein became a partner in 1997, and upon his grandfather’s retirement in 2000, he took over the firm’s leadership.

“Now more than ever, I operate on the belief that *everyone* has a right to the American Dream. I’ve devoted my life to helping those whose sole wish is to provide a better future for themselves and their children. In many ways, the U.S immigration policy is confrontational by nature and often assumes the worst of people, so being a voice and a champion for the underserved immigrant communities who often don’t realize how complex this process can be is extremely fulfilling,” he explains.

“Every day, I’m reminded of the lives Spar & Bernstein has changed thanks to this firm’s relentless drive to securing immigrants legal status and reuniting families that have sometimes been apart for decades.

For more information on *The Brad and Squeeze Show*, visit bradandsqueezeshow.com. For more information on the law offices of Spar & Bernstein, visit lawsb.com.