

# The JLegal



Personality Questionnaire Experience

Every month, JLegal examines the PQE of a senior in-house counsel. This month we talk to James Baker, a family-orientated Texan who wishes he were bilingual and had kept learning the piano.

**James Baker**  
Head of Legal  
at **Thome Group**  
of Companies



- What is on your mind at the moment?  
How much longer I work in a "9 to 5" job before "retiring" and becoming a full time maritime arbitrator.
- Which talent would you most like to have?  
To speak another language (other than "Texan") or two.
- What is your idea of misery?  
Having a job that is BOORING where I am not able to add value.
- What do you most value in your friends?  
Someone who is trustworthy.
- If you weren't a lawyer you would be a ...  
CEO.
- What is your most precious possession?  
My family.
- Where were you born?  
Dalhart, Texas.
- Where is the best place you have ever been to?  
I have been very fortunate to have visited a lot of "best places", unfortunately I can't pick just one.
- What is your greatest regret?  
Stopping piano lessons as a young child.
- What do you consider your greatest achievement?  
Living/travelling in so many parts of the world with my family.
- What is the strangest thing you have seen?  
The Northern Lights.
- What is your motto?  
Always keep my options open.
- Top 3 favourite movies of all time?  
Star Wars Episode IV, Lord of the Rings Trilogy, Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy.
- What do you consider your most overrated virtue?  
My "laid back" personality.
- What is your greatest extravagance?  
My High School Car, a 1965 Chevrolet Corvair (currently in storage in Chicago).
- If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?  
There are multiple areas for improvement, however, there is no one specific thing I would change. I am okay with the current package (apart from not having a second language).
- What irritates you?  
People who don't listen.
- What would you like to be remembered for?  
Being a good person.



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