

Rosenberg & Estis' Bradley Silverbush Finds His Inner Da Vinci

By **Carmen Germaine** | December 18, 2016, 8:05 PM EST



Bradley Silverbush drives his McLaren 650S Spider at the Zmax Proving Grounds facility in Las Vegas.

As he navigates the highway on a Saturday drive through the changing colors of Westchester County, New York, in autumn, Bradley Silverbush keeps his eyes on the road and off of his dash.

It's not that he's cautious — rather, he explains, when you drive exotic cars like his McLaren 650S Spider and like to cut loose on any stretch of highway you can find, looking away for even a split second could be catastrophic.

"I've always been a bit of a showoff — a lot of a showoff, I guess," the Rosenberg & Estis PC partner said. "I think you have to be a showoff to be a litigator."

When Silverbush can get away from his work as a New York City landlord-tenant attorney, he likes to take the McLaren to racetracks around New York and across the country, where the bright yellow car,

bedecked with a grinning cartoon hornet, stands out from the crowd.

But Silverbush doesn't stick to just racing cars. He's something of a modern-day Renaissance man, with a daring kick that Leonardo da Vinci no doubt would have approved of — skiing, surfing and, for a change of pace, playing piano.

His travels in search of big waves — he's currently preparing for a trip to Fiji — have brought him some vivid memories. On one trip to Hawaii, surfing legend Johnny-Boy Gomes became his guide for a day, helping him navigate the notoriously territorial locals at the break.

Although he's something of a newcomer to surfing, Silverbush does some of his best thinking among the waves.

"I'll be sitting out on the lineup on my surfboard, or I'll be sitting in the pit between sessions, and my mind is just firing on all cylinders," he said. "I think sometimes of things that are work-related, and it helps me see things from a different perspective that I might otherwise not have seen."



Bradley Silverbush

Rosenberg & Estis managing partner Luise A. Barrack says the lawyers at the office are impressed with Silverbush's thrilling pursuits, but she's more interested by the contrast between his enthusiasm for adrenaline-pumping activities and his ability as a pianist.

"To me, it's so very different from the rest of those pursuits," Barrack said. "At events, if we happen to be near a piano he'll start playing, and it's really unique."

Silverbush practices daily on a grand piano that dominates his living room, tapping out pieces from Beethoven to Rachmaninoff to Gershwin. As with the car, his eye is mostly on the music in front of him, only peripherally noticing his fingers dancing across the keys.

"I have a pretty eclectic repertoire," Silverbush said.

But Silverbush says he doesn't have the "natural ability" of piano impresarios and his true calling may be skiing.

He first discovered the talent as a kid growing up in Syracuse, New York, when his parents found him a pair of skis at a garage sale. A local jock challenged him to a race, giving Silverbush a head start — and never catching up.

"I had a natural ability for skiing," Silverbush recalled. "Being fairly daring, I wasn't afraid to catch air and do things."

Since then, Silverbush has skied all over the world, chasing powder in Chile, France and Italy. He even decided to move to Rosenberg & Estis following a "quarter of a century" at his previous firm after he met founding partner Gary Rosenberg on a ski trip with a mutual client.

“You’re filled with trepidation making that kind of move at that point in your life,” Silverbush recalled. “But after meeting Gary, I was sure of my decision, and there was no other place I even wanted to consider.”

For Silverbush, a major benefit of his hobbies is meeting people like Gomes and Rosenberg.

“A lot of enjoyment in life is meeting people who affect you in a positive way,” Silverbush said.

And the different perspective the hobbies bring may be especially helpful in the sometimes-combative world of landlord-tenant law.

“I think he’s just as intense about being an attorney as he is about everything,” Barrack said. “He really practices law in just the same way, with excellence and in an effort to do the very best he can do for his clients.”