



MIGNOLET  
BUSINESS RESEARCH CONSULTANTS, INC.

**That Can't be Illegal!**  
**How Google Hijacked the**  
**White House**



**CE/CLE Training**

Jean Mignolet is proud to offer CLE approved trainings regarding tips for "Locating Hidden Assets" and "Google is not an Investigation" for legal professionals and attorneys. Please contact for available dates.

For more than three decades Jean Mignolet has served in law enforcement and private investigation, managing all aspects of general investigative business. She specializes in in-depth background investigations, and is the top choice of attorneys, corporations, small business owners and individuals who require all types of investigative services.

For further information visit: [www.Mignolet.com](http://www.Mignolet.com)

Dear Jean,

In light of the hilarity of the month of April, let's take a look at the humor of the world around us.

States and cities across the country have laws on the books about everything from when unwed women are allowed to parachute to how long a kiss can legally last.

Google was able to buddy its way out of what would have been the most scandalous antitrust lawsuit since the 1990s. Worth at least a laugh? I think so.

This month, I encourage you to look for the punchline and find hilarity wherever it may happen to arise.

*Jean Mignolet*

*A reminder that prior issues of the newsletter are view-able from the website.*

**How Google Hijacked the White House**

While Google hasn't always got its way when it

Contact us at:  
[Mignolet@Bellsouth.net](mailto:Mignolet@Bellsouth.net)  
or call us at: 954-336-9363

**Quick Links**  
[Our Website](#)

[Services](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## That Can't Be Illegal!

Yes, it can! It's no April Fools joke that every state has at least a law or two no officer in their right mind would actually enforce.

In the city of **Denver**, lending your vacuum cleaner to your neighbor is illegal. So is throwing shoes at a wedding in the entire state of **Colorado**.

In the state of **Iowa**, a kiss may last no longer than five minutes by word of law.

The state of **New York** technically imposes a \$25 fine for flirting, defined as a man on a city street turning around to look at a woman "in that way."

It is illegal in the state of **Vermont** to paint a horse.

**In Seattle**, carrying a concealed weapon that is over the length of six feet is illegal. Where one would conceal it is beyond me.

comes to White House policy, the internet giant did manage to dodge an FTC antitrust investigation that would have resulted in a devastating and scandalous lawsuit.



In August of 2012, the Federal Trade Commission staff recommended a lawsuit against Google for use of anti-competitive tactics and abuse of power of its monopoly status in ways that caused harm to both Google's rivals and internet users. By January of 2013, the FTC decided not to file the lawsuit and dropped the antitrust investigation into Google. So what happened?

Google has friends in high places.

From reviewing White House visitors logs, the Wall Street Journal was about to find out that Google executives were able to meet with senior White House officials including members of the FTC who were probing them.

***In that time, President Obama got reelected. Eric Schmidt, chairman of Google, personally oversaw voter turnout tracking software for President Obama on the night of his reelection. Schmidt has also sat on White House advisory panels and former Google Vice President Megan Smith is now Obama's high tech adviser and the Chief Technology Officer of the United States. Who fixed healthcare.gov? Google.***

Who was the second-largest campaign contributor to Obama's reelection campaign in 2012, which incidentally happened while the FTC was investigating Google? Google employees.

Where do these laws come from? Well, many were passed and promptly forgotten about, others were hastily written in response to very specific events that transpired.

For example,  
**in our very own Florida, unmarried women are prohibited from parachuting on a Sunday by penalty of fine and/or jail time.**

I wonder what happened...

Who had a sudden flurry of lobbyist meetings with senior White House officials in 2012? Google.

**Last year, Google spent \$16.8 million on lobbying.** Since President Obama came into office, Google lobbyists have had around 230 meetings with senior White House officials, many of which were between the time the FTC launched its investigation and the time they decided to call it off. To get a sense of what that means, in that same time Comcast - Google's competitor who spent even more money on lobbying last year than Google - only got 20 meetings with senior White House officials.

It's no secret that the government can be bought, especially by an internet giant like Google. Maybe next time Google can redeem itself to internet users by making use of their influence to push their anti-NSA agenda on White House policy successfully.