

Legal Environment of Business

Columbus State Community College *LEGL # 264*

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.

michael.travis@bwc.state.oh.us

Class Location: Main Campus, Franklin Hall, Room # 311

Class Time: Saturdays 9:00 AM - Noon

Class Text: West's Legal Environment of Business, 6th Edition

Week # 1 - Saturday April 4th, 2009

Expectations of Class & Distribution of Syllabus

Chapter 1 - Legal Environment of Business

Chapter 2 - The Court System

Week # 2 - Saturday April 11th, 2009

Chapter 3 - Alternative Dispute Resolution

Chapter 4 - Legal Ethics

Chapter 5 - Constitutional Law

Discussion of Constitutional Law Paper

Week # 3 - Saturday April 18th, 2009

Chapter 6 - Administrative Law

Chapter 7 - Criminal Law

Chapter 8 - International law

Week # 4 - Saturday April 25th, 2009

Exam # 1 covering material discussed in class in chapters 1 – 8.

Week # 5 - Saturday May 2nd, 2009

Chapter 9 - Contracts - part I

Chapter 10 - Contracts - part II

Chapter 11 - Sales & Leases

Chapter 12 - Torts

Chapter 13 - Products Liability

Week # 6 - Saturday May 9th, 2009

Chapter 14 - Intellectual Property & the Internet
Chapter 15 - Bankruptcy & Debtor / Creditor Relations
Chapter 16 - Business Organizations
Chapter 18 - Corporations
Student presentations of Constitutional Law papers
Class review for next week's exam

Week # 7 - Saturday May 16th, 2009

Exam # 2 covering material discussed in chapters 9 – 16 & 18

Week # 8 - Saturday May 23rd, 2009

No Class – Memorial Day weekend

Week # 9 - Saturday May 30th, 2009

Chapter 19 - Agency
Chapter 20 - Employment Relationships
Chapter 21 - Employment Discrimination
Chapter 22 - Labor Law
Discussion of Administrative Law paper

Week # 10 - Saturday June 6th, 2009

Chapter 23 - Consumer protection
Chapter 24 - Environmental Law
Chapter 25 - Land Use & Real property
Chapter 26 - Antitrust & Monopolies
Chapter 27 - Antitrust & Restraint of Trade
Turn in completed Administrative Law paper
Class review for final exam

Week # 11 - Saturday June 13th, 2009

Exam # 3 covering material discussed in Chapters 19 – 27
Last chance to turn in completed Administrative Law paper

Grading info: Each exam counts an equal 25% of your total course grade, with the remaining 25% based on your combined Constitutional Law and Administrative Law papers. If you have to miss an exam because of professional or work conflicts, you must notify me in advance, so that alternative testing arrangements can be made.

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.

Assignment # 2

This assignment is worth 10% of your total course grade.

Using Lexis Academic and/or Ohio Link, as we learned today at the CSCC Library, research and answer the following assignments from page 108 in Chapter 3 of your textbook.

Question # 2

Question # 3

Question # 4

Question # 6

Question # 7

Question # 8

Along with providing the answer to each question listed above, please list which legal resource tool you used to find your answer.

Please note that in this assignment, style, format and legal citations are *not* important, and will not be part of your grade. (*that stuff comes later*). Your assignment is due in hard copy form in class, on Tuesday April 17th.

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.

Assignment # 3

This assignment is worth 10% of your total course grade.

There are three primary legal organizations that support paralegals: The National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA), The American Bar Association (ABA), and the American Alliance of Paralegals (AAP). Each of these organizations provides information on ethics and professional responsibility, for paralegals.

Your assignments is to go on-line, locate these organizations, research the ethics standards for each, and prepare a two page paper.

Your paper should include the following:

A brief summary of the ethics standards of each organization.

What are the consistent themes raised by each organization ?

What, if any, were the differences between the ethical standards of each organization ?

What, if anything you learned, surprised you related to ethical standards for paralegals ?

Summarize the lessons learned from your research and provide a top ten list of key ethical concepts for paralegals to remember.

Your assignment is due in hard copy in class, on Tuesday April 24th .

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.

Assignment # 4

This assignment is worth 20% of your total course grade.

On March 15th, 2012 the Ohio Supreme Court released a decision, ***State v. Dunn***. This case involves the actions of a police officer and the emergency aid exception to the 4th Amendment search warrant requirement. You are a paralegal, working for the City of Columbus, and your client is the Columbus Police Department.

Your assignment is to go on-line, locate this decision, and prepare a legal memoranda, outlining this case. The format of your memoranda can be found on pages 674-686 of the course textbook. You should start by educating your client (*the Columbus Police Chief*) on the legal issues related to the community - caretaking / emergency aid exception to the 4th Amendment. Begin your legal memoranda by providing a short summary of this legal concept.

The following elements must also be included in your legal memoranda, as listed on page 674:

1. Legal issues involved in this decision.
2. Brief answers to the legal issues raised in #1 above.
3. Statement of the facts in the case.
4. Your legal analysis.
5. Your conclusions to your client.

Your assignment is due in hard copy in class, on Tuesday May 15th.

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.



Assignment # 5

This assignment is worth 40% of your total course grade.

This assignment is to conduct legal research, and then draft a 2-3 page legal memoranda. The format of your memoranda can be found on pages 674 - 686 of the course textbook. On the following pages, I have listed five separate fact patterns, and you can choose any one of them to write about.

Your legal memoranda must include each of the items listed below, as they relate to the fact pattern you have chosen:

1. What are the relevant facts in this dispute ?
2. What are the legal issues involved in this dispute ?
3. Describe the legal positions that can be taken by each side, in this dispute.
4. Describe any statutes (*Federal, state or local*), administrative rules (*Federal, state or local*), and/or Constitutional Amendments related to this dispute.
5. List any key court decisions that support either side, related to this dispute.
6. Based on your legal analysis described above, which side should win ? Provide factual justification to support your findings.

Finally, in class on Tuesday June 5th, you will present a summary of your legal findings to the class. Note that your oral presentation will be a 3 - 5 minute summary, and *not* simply reading your legal memoranda out loud to the class. You should also be prepared to answer questions from either me or your classmates, regarding your legal research. While you may use your memoranda and notes for reference material while speaking to the class, remember that your oral presentation is meant to be a summary, not just a reading of your paper. Also remember to provide me a clean copy of your paper.

Good luck, and as always, call or e-mail me, if you have any questions or need guidance on this assignment.

Facts Patterns

You must choose one (*and only one*) of these fact patterns for the subject of your legal memoranda:

Fact Pattern # 1 Kroger's Slip & Fall -

John left a party at midnight and went Kroger's to buy some more beer, to keep the party going. As he was walking through the store, he did not notice the big puddle of water on the floor of the Kroger's produce section, slipped & fell, breaking his leg.

Just after he had entered the store, the store manger announced over the store's PA system: "Maintenance, please clean up a spill in produce." John, however, did not hear this announcement because he had headphones on, listening to his I-Pod at full volume. Later, while being treated at the local hospital ER, John's blood alcohol level was tested at .06

Shortly after the accident, John filed a tort lawsuit against Kroger's, alleging that the store was negligent. Kroger's plans to use all legal means available, to vigorously fight this lawsuit.

Fact Pattern # 2 Residential Dog Bite –

Roger is walking home late at night, after downing a couple beers at the corner tavern, and takes a short cut, by hopping a neighbor's chain link fence. As he is walking through the back yard, (*without permission*), he accidentally wakes up a sleeping pit-bull. Roger is initially frightened but soon discovers that he is safe, because the dog is chained up and can't reach him. Feeling bold (*and a little drunk*), he begins to tease the dog, the dog then gets angry, breaks his chain, and bites Roger in the leg. Roger runs away, and hops the fence to escape.

The pit-bull that bit Roger was never registered with either the City of Columbus or Franklin County, and the dog's owners did not have any insurance to cover dog bites. Roger later files lawsuits against both the landlord and the tenants (*who own the pit-bull*), alleging that both of them were negligent, and their negligence caused Roger's injury.

Fact Pattern # 3 Free Speech for Students ? -

Sally is a junior at a public high school in North Carolina, an honors student, active in many organizations including student government, and has never been in trouble with the law. She is politically very conservative, and frequently shares her political beliefs with anyone who will listen to her.

Last week, Sally got into a very heated discussion with her teacher, in Government class, about the current economic policies of President Obama. The teacher told Sally “ *You are not allowed to criticize President Obama in my classroom*” and the teacher threatened to suspend Sally, if she continued to “... *show disrespect for the President*”.

After these warnings from her teacher, Sally stopped her discussion in class. Later that evening, however, while at home on her own personal computer, Sally posted some very critical comments about her teacher on Facebook. The local School Board is now threatening to suspend Sally, and the teacher has filed a defamation lawsuit against Sally, for her Facebook posts.

Fact Pattern # 4 Stormy Weather -

Very early one morning in mid-May, Bubba, your Columbus Dispatch delivery guy, stops by your house while delivering the paper, and slips on your sidewalk, injuring himself. Your walk was covered in snow and ice, but was not salted or shoveled. You had gone to bed the night before at 11:30 PM, after watching the late local news & weather.

The weather forecast said there was a very slight of a late spring storm coming through overnight, but the weather was 40 degrees when you went to sleep, so you didn't think much of the forecast. Sure enough, an early morning cold front rolled through Columbus, depositing 3 - 4 inches of snow & ice on your property, but you slept right through the storm.

Bubba has filed a lawsuit against you, for not keeping your sidewalk safe (*but hey, do you even have to ?*), and alleges that your failure to keep your sidewalk and driveway clean caused his injury.

Fact pattern # 5 - Obama Care – Friend or Foe ?

In March 2010 President Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (*commonly known as Obama Care*). From that day forward, the law has been nonstop controversy, with arguments being made from every side on the fairness and wisdom of such a monumental shift in America's health care system.

In March 2012, exactly two years later, the United States Supreme Court heard three days of oral arguments on the constitutionality of this landmark health care legislation. Your assignment, if you choose this topic, is to review, analyze, and summarize the arguments raised by both sides in this dispute. Then determine, based on your legal research, which side should win, and fully justify your answer,

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.



Assignment #1

This assignment is worth 10% of your total course grade. You have two choices for this assignment, simply pick one of them:

Choice A –

Provide a one to two page analysis of the legal research services offered to Ohio paralegals by the Ohio State Bar Association's Case Maker legal research program.

Choice B –

Personally visit the Ohio Supreme Court Law Library and prepare a one to two page summary of the legal services offered by the Court to Ohio paralegals.

Please note that in this assignment, style, format and legal citations are not important, and will not be part of your grade. (*that stuff comes later*). Instead, I just want a well-written summary of the legal research tools available in either choice A or choice B. Your assignment is due in hard copy form in class, on Tuesday April 10th .

Legal Research & Writing

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 111

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.



Class Location: CSCC Main Campus, Workforce Development # 304

Class Time: Tuesdays 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Class Text: Paralegal Legal & Writing, 6th Edition, Walters & Kluwer
The Bluebook – A Uniform System of Citation, 19th edition

Week # 1 - Tuesday March 27th, 2012

Expectations of Class & Distribution of Syllabus

Chapter 1 - Legal Environment of Business

Week # 2 - Tuesday April 3rd, 2012

Chapter 2 - The Court System

Chapter 3 - Statutory Law

Chapter 4 - Case Law

Ohio State Bar Association Membership & Case Maker (handout)

Ohio Supreme Court Law Library (handout)

Assignment # 1 – Due in class on April 10th. (10% of total grade)

Week # 3 - Tuesday April 10th, 2012

Chapter 5 - Use of Legal Digests and Law Reporters

Class Discussion of Assignment # 1 Due Today

Assignment # 2 – Due in class on April 17th. (10% of total grade)

Field Trip to tour CSCC Library Legal Facilities

(class meets at regular time & location, then travels to CSCC Library)

Week # 4 - Tuesday April 17th, 2012

Class Discussion of Assignment # 2 Due Today

Class Discussion of Lexis Academic System

Chapter 6 - Legal Research with Encyclopedias, Periodicals, misc.

Chapter 7 - Secondary Legal Authorities

Week # 5 - Tuesday April 24th, 2012

Chapter 8 - Legal Citations

Class Discussion of Google Scholar Program

Class Discussion of Paralegal Ethics Standards

Assignment # 3 on Legal Ethics – Due May 8th (10% of total grade)

Week # 6 - Tuesday May 1st, 2012

Chapter 9 - Updating & Validating Your Legal Research

Assignment # 4 Related to Shepardizing – Due in Class May 15th
(20% of total course grade)

Week # 7 - Tuesday May 8th, 2012

Class Discussion of Assignment # 3 Due Today

Chapter 14 - Basic Legal Writing

Assignment # 5 Legal Memoranda – Due in Class on May 29th
(25 % of total course grade)

Week # 8 - Tuesday May 15th, 2012

Class Discussion of Assignment # 4 Due Today

Chapter 15 – Strategies for Effective Legal Writing

Week # 9 - Tuesday May 22nd, 2012

Independent Study & Legal Research for Legal Memoranda

Week # 10 - Tuesday May 29th, 2012

Student Oral Presentations of Legal Memoranda

Class review for next week's final exam

Week # 11 - Tuesday June 5th, 2011

Final Exam (25 % of total course grade)

Course Description: *This course provides an introduction to conducting legal research and writing, and the proper methods for preparing briefs, pleadings, and memoranda of law. Locating, analyzing, and checking case law, are also emphasized. Students will learn proper citation methods and legal writing styles, as well as developing familiarity with Ohio rules & statutes, and Federal rules & statutes.*

Academic Assessment Notice: *Columbus State Community College is committed to assessment (measurement) of student achievement of academic outcomes. This process addresses the issues of what you need to learn in your program of study and if you are learning what you need to learn. The assessment program at Columbus State has four specific and interrelated purposes:*

- (i) to improve student academic achievement;*
- (ii) to improve teaching strategies;*
- (iii) to document successes and identify opportunities for program improvement;*
- (iv) to provide evidence for institutional effectiveness.*

Grading info: *The relative weight of each assignment is listed above in the syllabus, and the final exam counts 25% of your total course grade. If you have to miss an exam because of professional or work scheduling conflicts, you must notify me in advance, so that alternative testing arrangements can be made.*

Student Conduct Policy: *As an enrolled student at Columbus State Community College, you have agreed to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. You should familiarize yourself with the student code. The faculty at Columbus State expect you to exhibit high standards of academic integrity. Any confirmed incidence of academic Misconduct, including plagiarism and other forms of cheating will be treated seriously and in accordance with College Policy and procedure.*

Reasonable Accommodation Statement: *It is the Columbus State policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, and/or learning disability, please contact the Department of Disability Services, 228 Franklin Hall, (614) 287-2570 (V/TTY).*

Emergency Closing Info: *In the event of severe weather or other emergencies which could force Columbus State to close or cancel classes, such closing information will broadcast on local radio and TV stations. I can also be reached via my cell phone, at (614) 581-0750, with any questions. Students who live in areas which fall under a Level III emergency should not attempt to drive to the college, even if Columbus State remains open.*

Assignments due or exams scheduled on a day the college is officially closed will be due / conducted on the next scheduled class period. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with reading and other assignments when a scheduled class does not meet, whatever the reason. If the college is forced to close during Final Exam Week, the make-up date and location will be Tuesday June 12th, 2012 at 6:00 PM, in Workforce Development Room # 304, Main Campus.

Financial Aid Reporting Requirements: *Columbus State is required by Federal Law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in Federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through the US Department of Veteran's Affairs. It is the responsibility of the College to identify students who do not commence attendance or who stop attendance in any course for which they are registered and paid. Non-attendance is reported quarterly by each instructor, and results in a student being administratively withdrawn from the class section. Please contact the Columbus State Financial Aid Office for information regarding the impact of course withdrawals on financial aid eligibility.*

Real Estate Transactions

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 119

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.



Class Location: CSCC Main Campus, Nestor Hall, Room # 323

Class Time: Saturdays 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Class Text: Real Estate Law, Southwestern Legal, 8th Edition

Week # 1 - Saturday June 23rd, 2012

Expectations of Class & Distribution of Syllabus

Chapter 1 - Introduction to the Legal System

Chapter 2 - Nature of Property

Chapter 3 - Scope of Real Property

Week # 2 - Saturday June 30th, 2012

Chapter 4 - Rights in Lands of Others

Chapter 5 - Types of Ownership

Discussion of Paper & Oral Presentation Assignment

Week # 3 - Saturday July 7th, 2012

Independent Study Time to Work on Oral Presentation Assignment

Week # 4 - Saturday July 14th, 2012

Chapter 6 - The Search for Real Estate

Chapter 7 - Real Estate Contracts

Chapter 8 - Title & Insurance

Week # 5 - Saturday July 21st, 2012

Exam # 1 on material discussed in class in chapters 1- 8

Week # 6 - Saturday July 28th, 2012

Chapter 9 - Financing of Real Estate Purchases
Chapter 10 - Real Estate Closings & Taxation
Chapter 11 - Landlord – Tenant Law
Real Estate Written Assignments Due
Student Oral Presentations to Class

Week # 7 - Saturday August 4th, 2012

Chapter 12 - Rights & Duties of landowners & Occupants
Chapter 13 - Legal Planning & Regulation of Land Use
Chapter 14 - Environmental Law & Regulations

Week # 8 - Saturday August 11th, 2012

Final Exam covering material discussed in class in chapters 9 – 14

Course Description: *This course provides the student with an overview of real estate concepts including property ownership, and legal issues related to the sales, purchase and leasing of property. This course also provides the student with the basic legal knowledge and skills necessary to become an effective paralegal assisting an attorney in the practice of real estate law.*

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- (ii) to improve teaching strategies;*
- (iii) to document successes and identify opportunities for program improvement;*
- (iv) to provide evidence for institutional effectiveness.*

Grading info: *Each exam counts an equal 40% of your total course grade, with the remaining 20% based on your real estate written assignment and oral presentation. If you have to miss an exam because of professional or work scheduling conflicts, you must notify me in advance, so that alternative testing arrangements can be made.*

Student Conduct Policy: *As an enrolled student at Columbus State Community College, you have agreed to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. You should familiarize yourself with the student code. The faculty at Columbus State expect you to exhibit high standards of academic integrity. Any confirmed incidence of academic Misconduct, including plagiarism and other forms of cheating will be treated seriously and in accordance with College Policy and procedure.*

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Assignments due or exams scheduled on a day the college is officially closed will be due / conducted on the next scheduled class period. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with reading and other assignments when a scheduled class does not meet, whatever the reason. If the college is forced to close during Final Exam Week, the make-up date & location will be Saturday August 18th, 2012, at 10:00 AM, in Nestor Hall Room # 323, Main Campus.

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REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEGL # 119 - SUMMER 2012

To: All LEGL # 119 Students
From: Michael Travis, Esq.
Date: June 30th, 2012
Subject: Details on Landlord / Tenant Writing & Oral Presentation Assignment

Your assignment is to discuss a landlord / tenant dispute, research the legal issues, outline the arguments supporting each side's legal position, decide which party should win, and why they should legally prevail. Here are the details on the assignment:

Legal Research Material –

You can use material from chapter 11 in the text book, Ohio's landlord/tenant law, the internet, and/or any other legal sources.

Sources of facts patterns for this assignment –

You can use any of the cases listed in chapter 11 of the textbook, any actual landlord / tenant disputes you may actually have been involved in, or a fact pattern you have learned about through the media.

The written assignment –

Prepare a 2-3 page paper describing a landlord / tenant dispute. I don't care about format, font size, spacing, layouts, margins, type style, etc., but you must include all of the following into your paper:

- (1) State the fact surrounding your legal dispute.
- (2) Describe the laws supporting the tenant's legal position.
- (3) Describe the laws supporting the landlord's legal position.
- (4) Describe which party should win.
- (5) Provide legal justification regarding why the landlord or tenant should win.

Your Oral Presentation – Be prepared to give a brief 4 – 5 minute oral presentation to the class on Saturday July 28th, 2012, describing your legal findings.

Business Organizations

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 220

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.



Class Location: CSCC Main Campus, Franklin Hall, Room # 311

Class Time: Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Class Text: Business Organizations & Corporate Law, Bevans

Week # 1 - Monday & Wednesday, June 18th & 20th

Expectations of Class & Distribution of Syllabus

Chapter 1 - Introduction to Business Organizations

Chapter 2 - Principals & Agents

Chapter 3 - Sole Proprietorships

Week # 2 - Monday & Wednesday, June 25th & 27th

Chapter 4 - General Partnerships

Chapter 5 - Limited Partnerships

Week # 3 - Monday & Wednesday, July 2nd & 4th

Chapter 6 - Limited Liability Companies

No Class on Wednesday – July 4th Holiday

Week # 4 - Monday & Wednesday, July 9th & 11th

Chapter 7 - Rise of the Corporation

Chapter 8 - Creating a Corporation

Week # 5 - Monday & Wednesday, July 16th & 18th

Class Review for Exam # 1 & Discussion of Writing Assignment

July 18th - Exam # 1 on material discussed in class in chapters 1- 8

Week # 6 - Monday & Wednesday, July 23rd & 25th

Chapter 9 - Participants in a Corporation

Chapter 10 - Financing of a Corporation

Week # 7 - Monday & Wednesday, July 30th & Aug. 1st

Chapter 11 - Corporate Liability

Chapter 12 - Terminating Existence of a Corporation

Business Organizations Written Assignment Due, and
Student Oral Presentations to Class

Week # 8 - Monday & Wednesday, August 6th & 8th

August 6th - Class Review for Final Exam

August 8th - Exam on material discussed in class in chapters 9 – 12

Course Description: *This course covers the fundamentals of the elements of business entities including sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. Students will learn how to prepare documents related the formation and/or dissolution of such business organizations. This course also provides students with the basic legal knowledge and skills necessary to become an effective paralegal, assisting an attorney in the practice of business organizations law.*

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Grading info: *Each exam counts an equal 33% of your total course grade, with the remaining 33% based on your business organizations written assignment and oral presentation. If you have to miss an exam because of professional or work scheduling conflicts, you must notify me in advance, so that alternative testing arrangements can be made.*

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Legal Environment of Business

Columbus State Community College - LEGL # 264

Instructor: Michael Travis, Esq.

Class Location: CSCC Delaware Campus, Moeller Hall Room # 118

Class Time: Tuesdays 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Class Text: West's Legal Environment of Business, 8th Edition

Week # 1 - Tuesday January 3rd, 2012

Expectations of Class & Distribution of Syllabus

Chapter 1 - Legal Environment of Business

Chapter 2 - The Court System

Chapter 3 - Alternative Dispute Resolution

Week # 2 - Tuesday January 10th, 2012

Chapter 4 - Business Ethics

Chapter 5 - Constitutional Law

Chapter 6 - Administrative Law

Discussion of Constitutional Law Paper

Week # 3 - Tuesday January 17th, 2012

Chapter 9 - Contracts - part I

Chapter 10 - Contracts - part II

Class review for next week's exam

Week # 4 - Tuesday January 24th, 2012

Exam # 1 on material discussed in class in chapters 1- 6 & 9-10

Week # 5 - Tuesday January 31st, 2012

Chapter 11 - Sales & Leases

Chapter 12 - Torts

Chapter 13 - Products Liability

Week # 6 - Tuesday February 7th, 2012

Chapter 14 - Intellectual Property & the Internet
Chapter 15 - Bankruptcy & Debtor / Creditor Relations
Chapter 17 - Business Organizations
Chapter 19 - Corporations
Discussion of Administrative Law papers

Week # 7 - Tuesday February 14th, 2012

Chapter 8 - International Law
Chapter 24 - Consumer Protection
Chapter 26 - Land Use & Real Property

Week # 8 - Tuesday February 21st, 2012

Exam covering material discussed in class in chap. 8, 11- 19, 24 & 26

Week # 9 - Tuesday February 28th, 2012

Chapter 20 - Agency Law
Chapter 21 - Employment Relationships
Chapter 22 - Employment Discrimination
Chapter 23 - Labor Law

Week # 10 - Tuesday March 6th, 2012

Student presentations of Constitutional Law papers
Early turn-in of completed Administrative Law papers
Class review for next week's final exam

Week # 11 - Tuesday March 13th, 2011

Final Exam on material discussed in class in chapters 20 – 23
Last chance to turn in completed Administrative Law papers !!

Course Description: This course provides an overview of the American legal system with an introduction to the legal concepts and principles that form its foundation. The course will examine the judicial system and methods of dispute resolution, while focusing on business crimes and torts, including products liability; ethics; contracts; consumer protection; environmental regulations; employment law; and business organizations, including sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. Students will be able to better understand the legal ramifications of their business decisions.

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Student Conduct Policy: *As an enrolled student at Columbus State Community College, you have agreed to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. You should familiarize yourself with the student code. The faculty at Columbus State expect you to exhibit high standards of academic integrity. Any confirmed incidence of academic Misconduct, including plagiarism and other forms of cheating will be treated seriously and in accordance with College Policy and procedure.*

Reasonable Accommodation Statement: *It is the Columbus State policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, and/or learning disability, please contact the Department of Disability Services, 228 Franklin Hall, (614) 287-2570 (V/TTY).*

Emergency Closing Info: *In the event of severe weather or other emergencies which could force Columbus State to close or cancel classes, such closing information will broadcast on local radio and TV stations. I can also be reached via my cell phone, at (614) 581-0750, with any questions. Students who live in areas which fall under a Level III emergency should not attempt to drive to the college, even if Columbus State remains open.*

Assignments due or exams scheduled on a day the college is officially closed will be due / conducted on the next scheduled class period. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with reading and other assignments when a scheduled class does not meet, whatever the reason. If the college is forced to close during Final Exam Week, the make-up date and location will be Tuesday March 20th, 2012 at 6:00 PM, in Moeller Hall Room # 118, Delaware Campus.

Financial Aid Reporting Requirements: *Columbus State is required by Federal Law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in Federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through the US Department of Veteran's Affairs. It is the responsibility of the College to identify students who do not commence attendance or who stop attendance in any course for which they are registered and paid. Non-attendance is reported quarterly by each instructor, and results in a student being administratively withdrawn from the class section. Please contact the Columbus State Financial Aid Office for information regarding the impact of course withdrawals on financial aid eligibility.*

LEGL # 264
Legal Environment of Business
Dublin Campus – Monday Nights
Course Grades - Winter 2012 - Mike Travis, Esq.

Student 1st Exam Paper #1 Paper #2 Final Exam Course Grade

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LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS
Columbus State Community College
LEGL # 264 - Winter 2012 - Delaware Campus

To: All Legal Environment of Business Students
From: Michael Travis, Esq.
Date: Monday, January 10th, 2012
Re: Details on your upcoming Constitutional Law Paper

Your assignment is to observe the world around you, research a controversial topic in today's society, and then write a **brief two to three page paper**, related to Constitutional Law. Your paper must include one of the subjects outlined in this handout, which you can pick from this list. I'm more concerned about your thoughts, ideas, and observations than any specific format, so don't get hung up on style, margins, footnotes, fonts sizes, etc. **but you must include the items I have listed below.** Remember – substance over style !

The key here is to think about one small & specific dispute, and focus your paper on that single narrow issue. Do not try and tackle a huge constitutional topic all in two or three pages !

Here's what must be included in your paper:

Topic - What is the specific & narrow dispute you are writing about?

Constitutional Issue - What freedom or right discussed in the Constitution's Bill of Rights is at issue, related to your topic?

Arguments - Briefly list the key legal arguments supporting **both sides** of the dispute, no matter which side you choose.

Outcome - Briefly state which side of your argument should win, and also include **why they should win, based on the Constitution.**

Finally, bring two copies of your paper to class, make sure your name is on it, and be prepared to briefly (3 – 5 minutes) discuss your paper with the class on Tuesday, March 6th, 2012.

LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEGL # 264 – Fall 2011

To: All LEGL # 264 Students
From: Michael Travis, Esq.
Date: November 1st, 2011
Subject: Details on Administrative Law Paper

Your assignment is to research a government agency, (either Federal, state, or local) and address the questions listed below, by writing a one or two page paper on the agency you have selected. You are not limited to the questions below, but they are just provided as a guide, for your assistance. Your research can include an on-site visit, personal experience, agency brochures or other printed material, and / or info from the agency's web site. The agency that you pick does not to be one that you have ever heard of – sometimes smaller, more obscure agencies are more interesting to learn about.

As always, I am more concerned more about substance and not form, so I don't care about format, font size, margins, spacing, layout, etc. - just write smart things. Unlike the Constitutional Law papers, you will not be required to present orally in front of the class, only write the paper. **You can turn in your paper anytime over the next three weeks, in class or e-mail it to me, but it must be turned in no later than Tuesday, December 6th, the date of the final exam.**

Some potential questions and issues you may include in your paper:

The name of the agency and its functions, powers, and duties.

What is the history of the agency? Is it new, or has it been around for long time ?

Location - is there only one site, or multiple locations ?

How is the agency organized ? Who runs it ? How many employees ?

Budget - annual spending ? How do they get their funding ? From whom ?

Would the agency be considered regulatory, social welfare, or executive ?

Does the agency issue licenses, permits, benefits, payments, etc. ?

Does the agency collect fees, premiums, taxes, or fines ?

Remember, be prepared to turn in your paper no later than Tuesday December 6th, in person or via e-mail. **Failure to turn your paper in by this date will result in receiving an incomplete (I) for your final course grade.**

Good Luck !!

The Case of Terry the Tumbling Teacher

Terry the Teacher worked as a substitute teacher for many school districts, all over NW Ohio and SE Michigan. Terry was working only one day at Bowling Green Elementary School, when she went with her class on a field trip to the local zoo. Because the bus was full, she drove her own car, instead of riding with the students. On the way back from the zoo, she stopped at McDonald's for lunch, and then drove back to school. Since there were no spaces left in the school's teacher parking lot, Terry had to park on the public street near the school, but not on school property.

As she was coming back to the school building from her parked car, it was raining very hard and the streets & sidewalks were slippery. Terry was running as fast as she could back to the school building, and as she was running across the sidewalk right in front of the school, she slipped on a banana peel, falling and hurting herself.

Coming back from the field trip, Sally Student had thrown the banana peel out the window of the bus. Janitor Joe had seen the banana peel, but wanted to wait until the rain stopped, before going outside to pick it up. At least four people saw Terry slip on the banana peel, including Janitor Joe, Sally Student, Bobbie the Bus Driver, and Mean Mr. Grinch, the principal.

Should Terry have her workers' compensation claim allowed?

OR

Should Mean Mr. Grinch deny Terry's workers' compensation claim?

We will be conducting a mock Industrial Commission hearing, to show how people try to settle disputes, after someone has been injured at work. The next page provides key legal information on relevant Ohio law that you will use, as Industrial Commission Hearing Officers, in resolving this dispute.

Legal Issues Related to Industrial Commission Hearings

When legal disputes arise between an employee and their company, regarding an injury, such disputes are argued before the Ohio Industrial Commission. The IC holds about 175,000 hearings every year, in 12 different offices all across Ohio.

At these hearings, the injured worker has the initial burden of proof, and Ohio law (*Ohio Revised Code 4123.01*) states that the injured worker must prove four elements, for their claim to be allowed. Conversely, if the employer who is challenging the claim disproves any one of these four elements listed below, the claim should be legally denied, and the employee gets no benefits. The four elements of workers' compensation eligibility include:

1. Is there an employer / employee relationship ?

If an employer uses volunteers, consultants, independent contractors, temps, or leased employees, there is no employer / employee relationship, and therefore no worker's compensation benefits.

2. Was the injury accidental ?

Was the injury really an accident or was it intentional ? What about contributory negligence ? What about co-worker causation ?

3. Was the injury on-the-clock ?

Workers' compensation insurance coverage is not 24/7/365, (*like health insurance is*), but only applies when the employee is actually working. What about parking lots, lunch hours, breaks, business & personal combined, recreational activities, or commuting to & from work?

4. Was the injury in the course of employment ?

Workers' compensation insurance only covers injuries caused by a hazard specifically & directly related to the job. What about weather, acts of god, individual health factors not related to employment, or general public risks ?