

Fresno City College  
Paralegal Studies Program  
Business Division  
1101 E. University Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93741

## TOP 100 OF THE NATION

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Since 1989 the FCC Paralegal Studies Program has offered exemplary training for California paralegals. The program offers both a certification program and an A.S. Degree which fulfill the requirements of California Business and Professions Code § 6450 et seq. Internship placement is an integral part of the program providing practical experience and an opportunity for networking in the legal field.

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For Admissions Information, please contact:

Fresno City College  
Admissions Office

(559) 442-4600

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### MCLE

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education credits are offered periodically through the Approved California State Bar General Provider: Fresno City College Student Paralegal Association.

To contribute an article, email Editor at:  
plegalres@sccd.org

# ON POINT!

March 2008

## *HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!*

Many Americans enjoy celebrating St. Patrick's Day, but how many of the celebration practices follow the same rituals as in Ireland? According to some Irish-Americans, St. Patrick's Day is a religious holiday in Ireland. The first thing one does is to go to church. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Britain about 389 A.D., was captured by pirates at age 16, and he was sold as a slave but escaped six years later. He eventually returned to bring Christianity to the Celtic people of the Emerald Isle. Legend has it that Patrick drove the snakes from Ireland. Others believe that the "snakes" were the pagan beliefs Patrick wanted to replace with Christianity.

However, in America March 17 is celebrated as a secular holiday drinking green beer and sporting shamrocks and leprechauns to add fun to the day. Another American form of celebration is eating corned beef and cabbage. In Ireland you have to go looking for it.

Irish Pubs started staying open for the holiday about 30 years ago, primarily for tourists who wanted to celebrate in the Emerald Isle. America's first St. Patrick's Day parades were held in Boston and New York in the 1700's, sparking a tradition that continues to this day.

Many of the 44 million Irish-Americans trace their ancestry back to the Potato Famine of 1845 to 1850 in which 1 million perished and 2 million fled to North America on so-called coffin ships. Prior to the famine, in the 1600's, about 50,000 Irish traveled to the New World to escape economic and political strife in Ireland. According to historical accounts, about 500,000 arrived during the 1700's and about 1 million between 1815 and 1844.

Today whether Irish-American or not, celebrating St. Patrick's Day has become just a fun day to find your Irish heart and soul.





## WONDERING ABOUT THE LATEST HAPPENINGS?

If you're wondering what The Fresno City College Student Paralegal Association is planning, check the bulletin board near the Business Education Office or check the SPA website at

<http://www.fccspa.org/>

### March 2008

- 3/07/2008 - [Law Firm Tour - McCormick Barstow](#)
- 3/13/2008 - MCLE Seminar "[Collections and the Paralegal](#)" (Presenter Mr. Rene Lastreto)
- 3/17-21/2008 - Spring Break (one week)
- (Pending: Appellate Court Tour, E-Waste Recycling Event)

### April 2008

- (Pending: Federal Court Tour, E-Waste Recycling Event, SPA 2008-2009 Board Member Election)

### May 2008

- 5/16/2008 - End of Spring Semester
- 5/16/2008 - FCC Commencement
- 5/17/2008 - Paralegal Program Graduation, Special Guest Speaker Honorable Judge Hilary Chittick

To contact a SPA officer, email:

[officers@fccspa.org](mailto:officers@fccspa.org)



## SPAM E-MAIL TIPS

If you receive unwanted spam e-mail, do NOT use the "unsubscribe" option on the spam e-mail that you receive. This is there for the sender to verify that your e-mail address is valid and will enable the sender to send you more spam e-mail plus sell your e-mail address to other spammers.

In fact, your computer may be the spammer. Spammers may be using your computer to send unsolicited e-mail offers for products and services. The Federal Trade Commission's Alert suggests that as much as 30 percent of all spam is relayed by compromised computers located in home offices and living rooms, but controlled from afar. Spammers scan the internet, searching for points of entry and then install hidden software that allows remote access to your data and programs.

It can be very difficult to detect if a spammer has installed hidden software on your computer, but there are some warning signs.

- E-mails accusing you of sending spam
- Finding e-mails in your "outbox" that you didn't send
- Or your computer is using more power than it has in the past to run the programs you use.

The FTC encourages you to:

1. Use anti-virus software
2. Be cautious about opening any attachment

3. Use a firewall
4. Check your “sent items” file
5. If your computer is infected, take action immediately

You can learn more about securing your computer at [www.ftc.gov/infosecurity](http://www.ftc.gov/infosecurity).

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## HOW TO BE THE CLASS ‘VALUE-DICTORIAN’



1. Consider the National Do Not Call Registry.
2. Stay Away from “Guarantees” to Get Scholarships.
3. Don’t Buy Bogus Weight Loss products.
4. Keep Your Personal Information to Yourself.
5. Understand Credit.
6. Refrain from peer-to-peer file sharing on your computer.

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## THE WORLD’S THINNEST BOOK:



*THINGS I CANNOT AFFORD*  
by *Bill Gates*

## HOW TO KEEP CALM DURING TESTS

- Prepare in advance
- Be on time
- Don’t talk about the test immediately beforehand—it will raise your anxiety level.
- Plan your approach
  - Determine point values per section
  - Establish time limits per section
  - Which question to start with
- Ask for clarification about any directions, etc.
- Develop an aggressive, yet realistic attitude
- Activity reduces anxiety
  - Jot down what you can recall before starting an essay question
- Relax yourself physically
- Pay attention to the test not to others



## HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

This is a quiz for people who know everything! These are not trick questions. They are straight questions with straight answers.

### Quiz Questions:

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?

3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?
6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters "dw" and they are all common words. Name two of them.
7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
8. Where are the lakes that are referred to in the Los Angeles Lakers?
9. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh

### **- Answers To Quiz -**

1. *The one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends . . . boxing*
2. *North American landmark constantly moving backward . . . Niagara Falls (The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute.)*
3. *Only two vegetables that can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons asparagus and rhubarb.*
4. *The fruit with its seeds on the outside. Strawberry.*

5. *How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. (The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.)*
6. *Three English words beginning with dw . dwarf, dwell and dwindle.*
7. *Fourteen punctuation marks in English grammar . period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.*
8. *The original lakes referred to in Lakers in Minnesota. (The team was originally known as the Minneapolis Lakers, and kept the name when they moved west.)*
9. *The only vegetable or fruit never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh...lettuce.*

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## GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.



## DO YOU NEED A SAFECRACKER TO BUY GAS FOR YOUR CAR?

<http://www.fresnogasprices.com/>

Do you find yourself going from corner to corner checking the gas prices to see that you don't pay literally dollars more to put gas in your car? You can check the lowest and highest gas prices in Fresno by checking the above website. Prices are changed every 60 hours. Simply look up the brand or the intersection you desire. Then compare other gas stations located at intersections close to your home. Of course, it is true that by traveling far out of your way to obtain the cheapest price you may lose the savings you sought. You can also help keep the website up-to-date by posting gas prices that you have found in Fresno.



## DISORDER IN THE COURT

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?  
WITNESS: All my autopsies are performed on dead people. Would you like to rephrase that?

ATTORNEY : Are you qualified to give a urine sample?  
WITNESS: Huh....are you qualified to ask that question?

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?  
WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?  
WITNESS: Yes.  
ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?  
WITNESS: I forget..  
ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

## FCC OFFERS TUTORING

Tutoring is available to FCC students. If you find that you need help in completing your assignments in a quality manner, consider contacting the Tutorial Center. Here is some helpful information for you to know in making your decision.

### WHAT THE TUTOR CAN DO

- The tutor can identify your writing weaknesses: sentence errors, punctuation errors, usage errors, and spelling errors.
- The tutor can point out examples of your mistakes in your work, explain the rules, and correct one or two of your errors to you.

- The tutor can tell you when a paragraph or a part of a paper is weak or does not make sense and suggest improvements for clarity.
- The tutor can teach you how to use a style manual such as MLA.
- The tutor can help you generate ideas, develop a thesis, and organize a paper.

## WHAT THE TUTOR CANNOT DO

- The tutor cannot proofread your paper.
- The tutor cannot make corrections beyond the first or second example of an error.
- The tutor cannot rewrite or rephrase.

The phone number for tutoring services is (559) 442-8209.

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## ANOTHER LAWSUIT FOR THE BOOKS

The following New York case was reported by Foxnews.com on:

[www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,323186,00.html](http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,323186,00.html)

"A construction worker claimed in a lawsuit that when he went to a hospital after being hit on the forehead by a falling wooden beam, emergency room staffers forcibly gave him a rectal examination.

Brian Persaud, 38, says in court papers that after he denied a request by NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital emergency room employees to examine his rectum, he was "assaulted, battered and falsely imprisoned."

His lawyer, Gerrard M. Marrone, said he and Persaud later learned the exam was one way of

determining whether he had suffered spinal damage in the accident.

Marrone said his client got eight stitches for a cut over his eyebrow.

Then, Marrone said, emergency room staffers insisted on examining his rectum and held him down while he begged, "Please don't do that." He said Persaud hit a doctor while flailing around and staffers gave him an injection, which knocked him out, and performed the rectal exam.

Persaud woke up handcuffed to a bed and with an oxygen tube down his throat, the lawyer said, and spent three days in a detention center.

A request by the hospital to dismiss Persaud's lawsuit was denied by Justice Alice Schlesinger, who ordered a trial to start March 31.

Hospital spokesman Bryan Dotson said, "While it would be inappropriate for us to comment on specifics of the case, we believe it is completely without merit and intend to contest it vigorously."

Persaud's lawsuit, filed in Manhattan's state Supreme Court, seeks unspecified damages. A judge dismissed a misdemeanor assault charge against him."



## KITCHEN FIRE

Never throw water on a grease fire; throw a wet towel over the pan. The water, being heavier than the oil, sinks to the bottom where it instantly becomes superheated. The explosive force of the steam blows the burning oil up and out. Inside the confines of a kitchen, the fireball hits the ceiling and fills the entire room. Also do not throw sugar or flour on a grease fire. One cup creates the explosive force of two sticks of dynamite.