

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

For Admissions
Information, please contact:

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Admissions Office

(559) 442-4600

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:
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ON POINT!

December 2006

THE NIGHT BEFORE IT'S DUE

by

Brian J. McCully

(with apologies to Clement C. Moore)

'Twas the night before its due date
And inside the house,
The computer was working
With help from a mouse.

Research notes were spread
On the table with care
In hopes that the answer
Would be found there.

When out in the street
There arose such a clatter
I sprang from my chair
To see what was the matter.

Away to the window
I flew like a flash,
Tore open the curtain
While teeth I did gnash.

The tulle fog spread like fallen snow
Giving an eerie look to objects below.
When what to my wondering eyes
should appear,
But a luggage cart, briefcases and
someone standing near.

A little balding fellow
So lively and quick,
I knew in a moment
It must be Mr. McC . . .

I then thought of how often
His assignments came,
And the way he lectured, questioned
And tested by using no name.

I'd often observe in his every class
Anxious students hoping to pass
In my seat when I turned around
Down the aisle came Mr. McC .
Not far from the ground.

A bundle of handouts
He had flung in his pack,
And some slipped in tardy
Behind his turned back.

The stump of a red pen
He held tight in his teeth
And his red ink it encircled
'My papers like a wreath.

He was occasionally grumpy,
A downright demanding little elf,
And I groaned when I saw him
In spite of myself.

With the homework finished
As it went down the row,
I'd think to myself
"Well, there it goes."

As he exited the classroom
His briefcases he'd grab,
Headed for his office
With no time to gab.

But I heard him exclaim
When almost out of sight,
Merry Christmas paralegal students
You're doin' all right!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

The following was taken from the website
<http://www.ahajokes.com/law094.html>.

BEST LAWYER STORY OF THE YEAR Charlotte, North Carolina, USA

A lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against, among other things, fire. Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars and without yet having made even his first premium payment on the policy the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost "in a series of small fires."

The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason, that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion. The lawyer sued... and WON!
(Stay with me.)

Delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The judge stated nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company, which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable fire" and was obligated to pay the claim !

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the cigars lost in the "fires".

NOW, FOR THE BEST PART...

After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000 fine. This is a true story and was the First Place winner in the recent Criminal Lawyers Award Contest!



Merry Christmas in Legal Terms

Please accept without obligation, express or implied, these best wishes for an environmentally safe, socially responsible, low stress, non addictive, and gender neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday as practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice (but with respect for the religious or secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or for their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all) and further for a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling, and medically uncomplicated onset of the generally accepted calendar year (including, but not limited to, the Christian calendar, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures). The preceding wishes are extended without regard to the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith, choice of computer platform, or sexual preference of the wishee(s).

MISTLETOE

Mistletoe is connected to Germano-Celtic tree worship. Mistletoe is a common parasite on oak and ash trees. It remains green throughout the winter, thus symbolizing renewal. Kissing under mistletoe bough or sprigs was a custom of the English servant class in the 18th century until 1850 when it began to spread to the upper classes. Dickens describes the activity in the *Pickwick Papers*, 1837.

POINSETTIA

Poinsettia was introduced to the United States from Mexico by Joel Roberts Poinsett, Charleston, S.C., in 1828, while he was Minister to Mexico. It was considered to be the "flower of the blessed night," representing the star of Bethlehem to Mexicans in the 18th century. It is a common decoration in Mexican Nativity processions. The poinsettia as a potted plant was promoted by Albert Ecke, Hollywood, California, in the early 1900's.

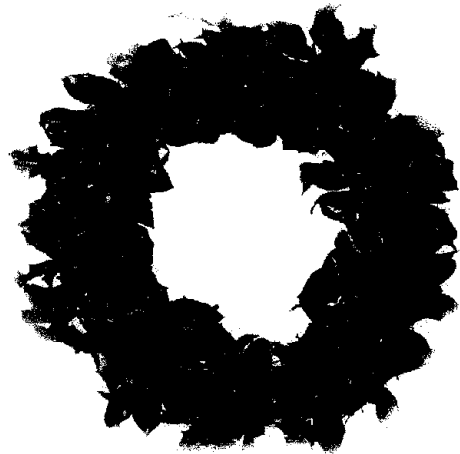
CHRISTMAS JOKES

One year, a particular harried husband decided to buy his mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift. The next year, he didn't buy her a gift. When she asked him why, he replied, "Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

This guy goes into a restaurant for a Christmas breakfast while in his home town for the holidays. After looking over the menu he says, "I'll just have the eggs Benedict." His order comes a while later and it's served on a big, shiny hubcap. He asks the waiter, "What's with the hubcap?" The waiter sings, "O, there's no plate like chrome for the hollandaise!"

ARE YOU A CHRISTMAS GRINCH?

- You steal light bulbs from you neighbor's outdoor display to replenish your own supply.
- You have dressed a dog or cat as Santa Claus, elf helper, or reindeer.
- You put out last year's stale candy canes for children.
- You enclose a shoddy and inferior gift from Target, Walmart, or K-Mart in a Bloomingdale's or other prestige box to impress your friends.
- You make collect long distance phone calls to your family on Christmas day.
- At the office Christmas party, you horde huge stockpiles of goodies for later consumption at home
- You steal the wreath from a parked car to use on your own [Southern California only, others ignore].
- After an invitation to a friend's house, you bring a commercially produced fruitcake and try to pass it off as home made.
- Any stealing from the Toys-for-Tots collection bins is a definite no-no.



Christmas Fudge

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup light cream
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup marshmallows (miniature)
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup pecan halves

Combine sugar, cream, butter, syrup and salt in a heavy saucepan. Bring to a gentle boil over low heat. Cook, stirring constantly, until sugar melts. Continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until mixture reaches 240 degrees on candy thermometer. This is the soft ball stage. Remove from heat; stir in marshmallows and vanilla. Stir until marshmallows melt and candy starts to lose its gloss. Stir in pecan halves. Continue stirring until candy starts to set. Pour into buttered 8-inch square pan. Cool, then cut into squares.



SENIOR CARJACKING

This is a true account as recorded in the Police Log of Sarasota, Florida...An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle. She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her voice, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car! "The four men didn't wait for a second invitation. They got out and ran like mad.

The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition. She tried and tried, and then it dawned on her why... For the same reason she did not understand why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12 packs of beer in the front seat!

A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down. She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake. The sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun. No charges were filed

If you're going to have a Senior Moment, make it a memorable one!!!!



EVERYONE WHO HAS EVER BOUGHT A HOUSE WILL ENJOY THIS!

A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA loan for a client who lost his house in Hurricane Katrina and wanted to rebuild. He was told the loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to the parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the Lawyer three months to track down.

After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply: (Actual letter):"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin."

Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows: (Actual Letter):"Your letter regarding title in Case No. 189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have title extended further than the 194 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the U.S. from France in 1803, the year of origin identified in our application.

For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France, which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain, the land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the Privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Isabella. The good queen, Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as

the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus' expedition. Now the Pope, as I am sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, AND the FHA. I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our loan?"

He got the loan.

USEFUL ACRONYMS

1. FLSA	6. BLS
2. GPO	7. PACER
3. PDR	8. PL
4. ADA	9. ADR
5. BAC	10. AG

Answers

1. Fair Labor Standards Act (U.S.)
2. U. S. Government Printing Office
3. Physicians' Desk Reference
4. American Disabilities Act
5. Blood Alcohol Content
6. U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
7. Public Access to Court Electronic Records
8. Public Law
9. Alternative Dispute Resolution
10. Attorney General

DID YOU KNOW?

- You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
- The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.
- No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven times.
- There is an employment law seminar on campus on Saturday, October 8? See last page for more information.

CHRISTMAS STRESS?

With the end of the semester approaching, finals, and figuring next semester's classes, one barely has time to think about the festivities of the season. However, for most students schedules become even more overloaded as presents need to be purchased, extra baking calls, and attending as well as hosting parties becomes the norm. Of course, with the season means that the house needs to be kept guest ready. However, all the tasks that have been put on hold while studying have piled up.

So how do you get into the Christmas cheer? How do you keep your cool in the mall parking lot as well as in the crowds filling the stores? How do you keep from being a victim of package rage?

An article from eMaxHealth gives the following suggestions:

- Do your present shopping as much in one day as possible. Your mind will stay focused.
- Don't stop for coffee while shopping. Caffeine releases a stress hormone, cortisol. Take a bottle of water with you.
- Breathe to calm yourself. Breathe in for four counts, hold it for 16 counts.

**Fresno City College
Student Paralegal Association**

&

Diversity Club

Challenge you to participate in a Holiday Season

"Diaper Drive"



Please Help Us Put A Smile On A Child's Face!
Donate formula, baby food, diapers, blankets, clothes or toys.
All items for little ones are welcome.

Time: The Month of December

Drop Off Location: F.C.C. Student Lounge

Please place donations in the bin labeled "Diaper Drive"

Donations will benefit local families in need and will be distributed through recognized agencies.