Technology's Impact on the Appellate Process



Eric Magnuson





Hon. Michael J. Melloy Hon. William B. Cassel



Damien Riehl











Why technology?



Efficiency

Straight Ahead

•



How courts are dealing with it

Minnesota's eCourtMN initiative



Annual Report



MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks



E-Filing in State Appellate Courts: An Appraisal



25 Years Later, PACER, Electronic Filing Continue to Change Courts

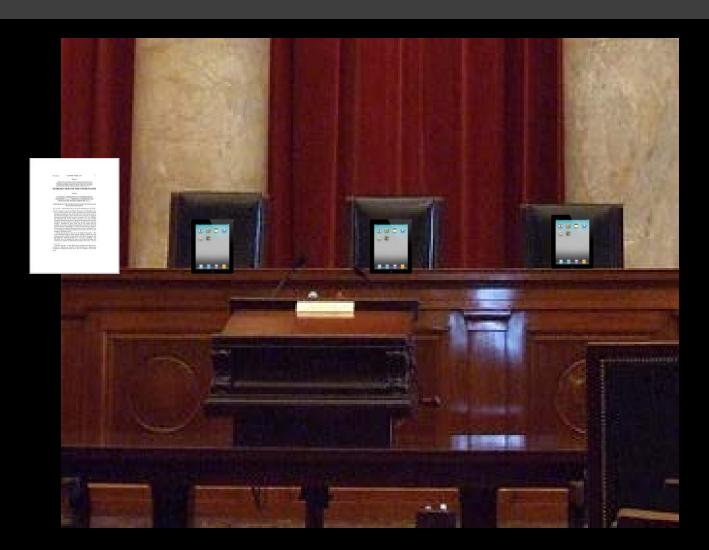
Access to Court Opinions Expands

Eighth Circuit

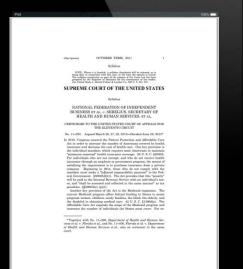


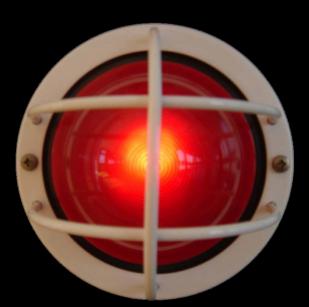


Michael Gans Clerk of Court











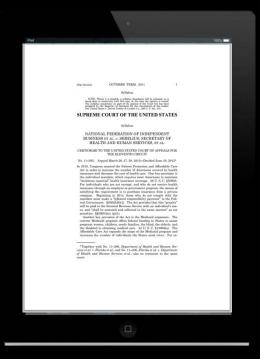


Eighth Circuit Local Rules



Local Rule 28A(g)(5): Addendum electronically





Case Management

CM/ECF



Electronic Case Files



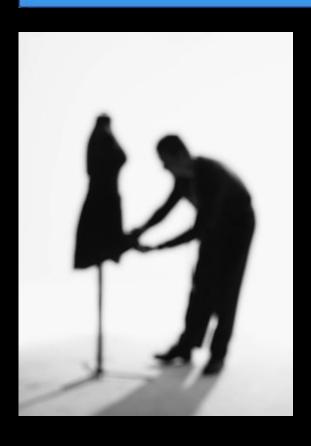
Single login across all courts where lawyer is registered

Case Management

CM/ECF



Electronic Case Files



Customize screens

Display specific information

Case Management

CM/ECF



Electronic Case Files



Emphasize remote access

- For Lawyers
- For Judges

Court Privacy Rules





Sealed Documents

Motions to file documents (or parts of documents) under seal:

- Must make motion
- File in paper only
- State party's belief that motion to seal:
 - should be publicly available on PACER or
 - should remain sealed.

May require two versions of brief:

- Public, redacted version
- Sealed, unredacted version





Sealed Documents

If motion is granted:

File sealed documents in paper only.





Privacy

All filed documents:

Refrain from including (or, where inclusion is necessary, partially redact) these personal data identifiers:

- Minors' names
 (use initials only)
- Social Security numbers (use last 4 digits only);
- Dates of birth (use year of birth only);



Privacy (continued)

All filed documents:

Refrain from including (or, where inclusion is necessary, partially redact) these personal data identifiers:

- 4. Financial account numbers (identify type of account, institution, and account number's last four digits)
- 5. Home address information (use phrases such as the "4000 block of Elm")
- Addenda to criminal briefs
 must not include the Statement of Reasons or
 other confidential sentencing materials.



Privacy (continued)

Filers bear sole responsibility for redactions





Sex abuse victims: identify by initial only

J.A.D.







Public can access:

Case-based information

- Litigant/party indexes
- Summaries (e.g., party names)
- Registers describing documents
- Information about judgments, orders, or decrees
- Filed documents (if scanned or e-filed)

Court Calendars





Public cannot access:

Statutory exclusions (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05):

- Medical records
- Trade secrets
- Social security numbers

Exclusions under other statutes, rules, or caselaw:

- Criminal history (under Security, Privacy, and Dissemination of Criminal History Information Act)
- Adoption case records
- Criminal victims' names and addresses





Confidential and Sealed Records

Record:

Trial court must seal confidential portions

Bill of exceptions:

All sealed portions = one separate electronic file

Images of sexually explicit conduct involving a child:

Cannot scan or electronically transmit

Court-ordered under seal

Cannot be e-filed.



Civil: Personal & Financial Info

Not generally accessible:

- Birth dates
- social security numbers
- financial account numbers

Separate document: publicly inaccessible

If electronic transmission: identify as confidential

If in order, judgment, or decree, courts will:

- seal original
- provide redacted version for public view



Responsibility for redaction: solely on parties and counsel

Criminal: Personal & Financial Info

Documents may include:

- references to social security numbers (but no digits)
- birth year
- minor child's initials
- account number (only last four digits)
- date of birth of defendant (or person subject to detention)

Protective orders: may require additional redaction or limit electronic access

Responsibility for redaction: Solely on counsel





How do lawyers and judges deal with it?

Ethical obligation: Keep up with technology



Rule I.I <u>Duty of Competence</u>

Maintaining Competence [8] To maintain the requisite knowledge and skill, a lawyer should keep abreast of changes in the law and its practice, including the benefits and risks associated with relevant technology

May judges conduct independent internet research?

ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 2.9(C):

"A judge shall not investigate facts in a matter independently, and shall consider only the evidence presented and any facts that may properly be judicially noticed."

Comment [6]: "The prohibition ... extends to information available in all mediums, including electronic."

No parallel provision in Code of Conduct for United States Judges

Rules on Judicial Notice

Fed. R. Evid. 201(c)(1):

The court ... may take judicial notice on its own."

Fed. R. Evid. 201(d):

"The court may take judicial notice at any stage of the proceeding."

"Judicial experience" and "common sense"

Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 679 (2009)

"Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for relief will, as the Court of Appeals observed, be a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial experience and common sense."

Matthews v. Nat'l Football League Mgmt. Council, 688 F.3d 1107, 1113 (9th Cir. 2012)

"We take judicial notice of the fact that Matthews' teams played 13 games in California during Matthews' 19-year career. See Tennessee Titans Team Page, NFL.com,

http://www.nfl.com/teams/profile?team=TEN (last visited July 19, 2012)."

State v. Peck, 773 N.W.2d 768, 775 n.3 (Minn. 2009) (Anderson, P. dissenting).

"A quick and rudimentary Internet search suggests that bong water is commonly altered using fruity flavors in an effort to mask the chemical flavor common to methamphetamine.

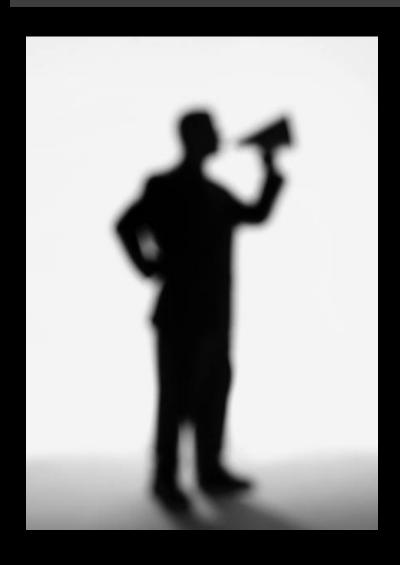
United States v. Bari, 599 F.3d 176, 180 (2d Cir. 2010)

"The District Court's independent internet research served only to confirm [its] common sense supposition.... 20 years ago, to confirm an intuition about the variety of rain hats, a trial judge may have needed to travel to a local department store. Today, ... a judge need only take a few moments to confirm his intuition by conducting a basic Internet search."

M.P. v. M.P., 54 a.3D 950, 955 (PA. Super. 2012)

"The trial court here abused its discretion by relying on information it obtained through its own internet search that took place after the hearing had been concluded and while under advisement by the court."

Opportunity to be heard



Fed. R. Evid. 201(e):

"Opportunity to Be Heard.

On timely request, a party is entitled to be heard on the propriety of taking judicial notice and the nature of the fact to be noticed. If the court takes judicial notice before notifying a party, the party, on request, is still entitled to be heard."

Self-Authentication

Government Websites

Rule 902(5):

"Official Publications. A book, pamphlet, or other publication purporting to be issued by a public authority."

McGaha v. Baily, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73389 (D.S.C. July 7, 2011):

The "court may take judicial notice of factual information located in postings on governmental websites..."



Self-Authentication

Newspapers / Periodical Websites: Self-Authenticating as of 12/1/2011

Rule 101(b)(6): "[A] reference to any kind of written material or any other medium includes electronically stored information."

Rule 902(6): "Newspapers and periodicals. Printed materials purporting to be newspapers or periodicals."

Rule 803(16): "A statement in a document that is at least 20 years old and whose authenticity is established."









Link Rot – Perma

Link Rot

Lawrence Lessig's study of link rot

50% of SCOTUS links are dead

Perma

- Seeks to address link rot
- Archives all judicially linked resources
- 30 law libraries will store archive copies
 - Diversity reduces the likelihood of the archive going fallow
- ABA Journal article on Perma (Dec. 2013)



Appellate Courts' Use of Internet Materials

The Curious Appellate Judge

"A judge who takes it upon herself to do fact research departs from her normal role and from the parties' expectations about the sources of information on which the court will depend."



Appellate Courts' Use of Internet Materials

The Curious Appellate Judge

"The rules governing independent judicial research should therefore make it clear to both judges and litigants when research is and is not permitted, and should subject judge-supplied information to the same adversarial testing as any other kind of evidence."



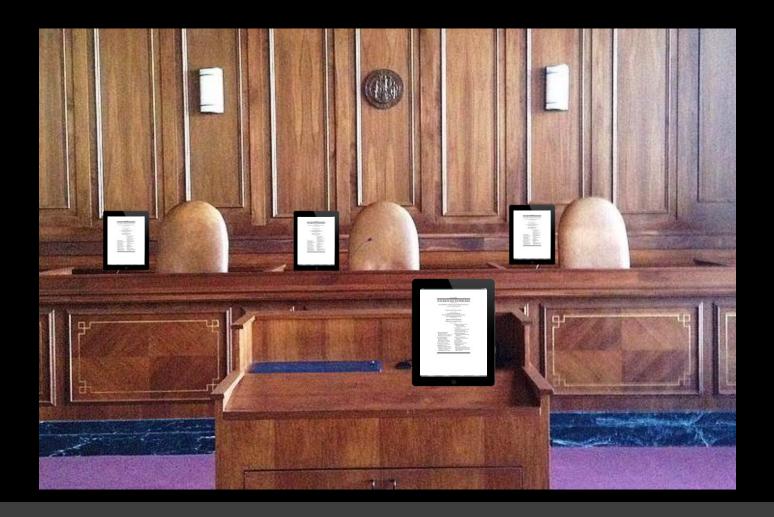
- Independent Judicial Research in the Daubert Age
- When Judges Google
- Confronting Supreme Court Fact Finding
- The Lure of the Internet and the Limits on Judicial Fact Research
- Judicial Ethics and The Internet: May Judges
 Search The Internet in Evaluating and
 Deciding a Case? (16 No. 2 prof. Law.2)
- Attorneys Must Relitigate Cases for Free

Impact on standard of review

- The Unblinking Eye Turns Appellate Law:

 Cameras in Trial Courtrooms and Their

 Effect on Appellate Law
- Thawing Out the Cold Record
- Deference in a Digital Age

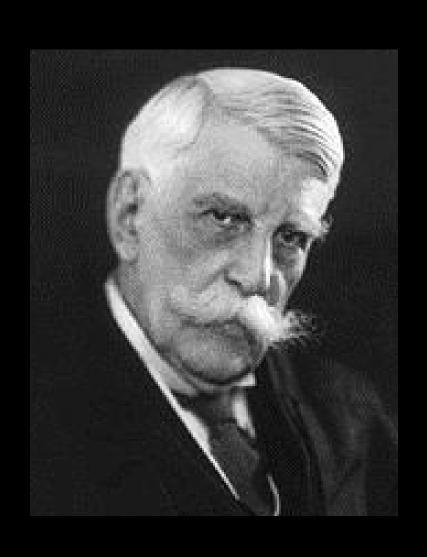


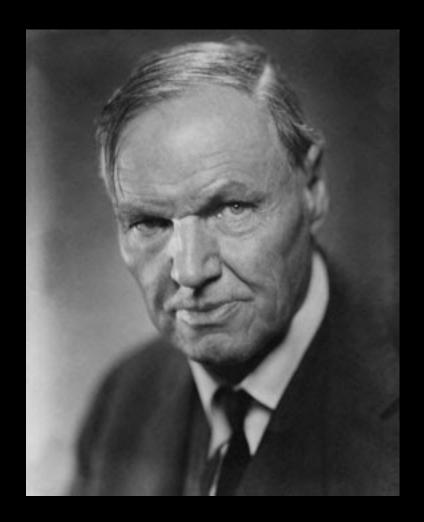
Effective advocacy in a technological world

Not superficial; this is advocacy



Of course. Substance is essential.

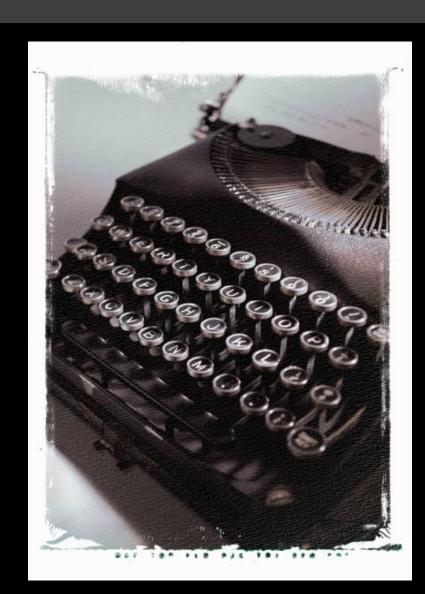




... but presentation matters.



Writing for paper





Writing for screens



In the Supreme Court of the United States

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL., PETITIONERS

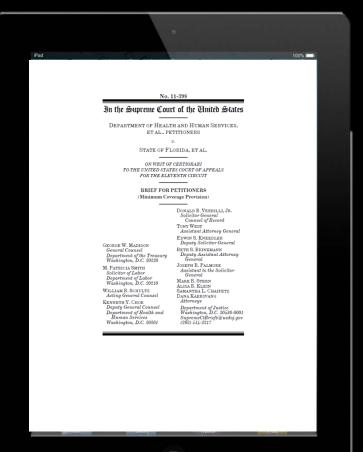
22.

STATE OF FLORIDA, ET AL.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

BRIEF FOR PETITIONERS (Minimum Coverage Provision)

DONALD B. VERRILLI, JR.
Solicitor General
Counsel of Record
TONY WEST
Assistant Attorney General
EDWIN S. KNEEDLER



Mid-Century Workflow

There Eve Priview

Tought me commerce The final & week shetch of on current peason, tou fint - a shotch replete with cycles, festivals, & special ments. In fact, There are to many of Rece That it takes ace tain amount of real concentration to keep track of Them. During The west Three weeks we are commemorating Progoleti's 250 th bin I day, and primetenency we are looking out Three expects of 20" century problems in music, The four th week we shall Jive on special Raster Concert - The Slemm Mass of Ber Roves. Then Bruns back comes to complete our long Mahler festival with his immed to be for formon of Das hard in der Erde. he 6 - + 7 - weeks are devoted to music on The Treate - ballet + opera, respectively. And The final forweek will have a special program appropriate From last purposeption concerts in Came je Hall - unless some minacle occurs before That time. (That's why we're Ceefing The program a mystery, for The present.)

In addition we have for special Pension from a concert: The Advances on April 4" with More Tebreli, 4 one on May 15" - The Bucknown 9" Symphony. To say working John for televised young people's programs one This commit Jatualay, on unwined instruments, 4 The steer on April 23", which will present Jan Coplant's higheschool open, The Second Horricane.

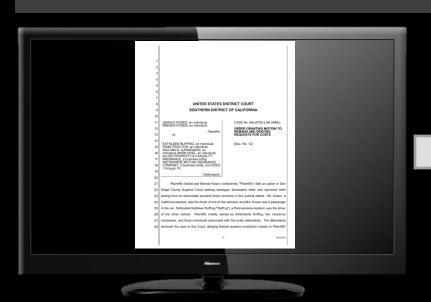
Hyor mer chance to wen der how me mangge to fee face







2010s Workflow





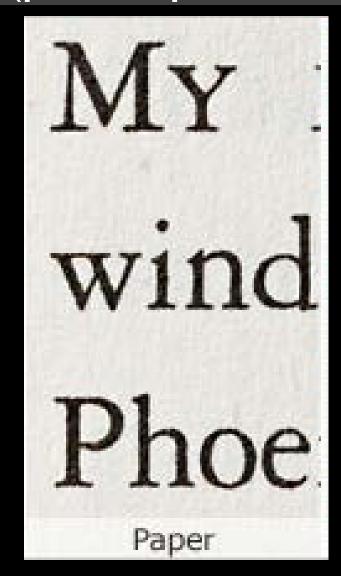




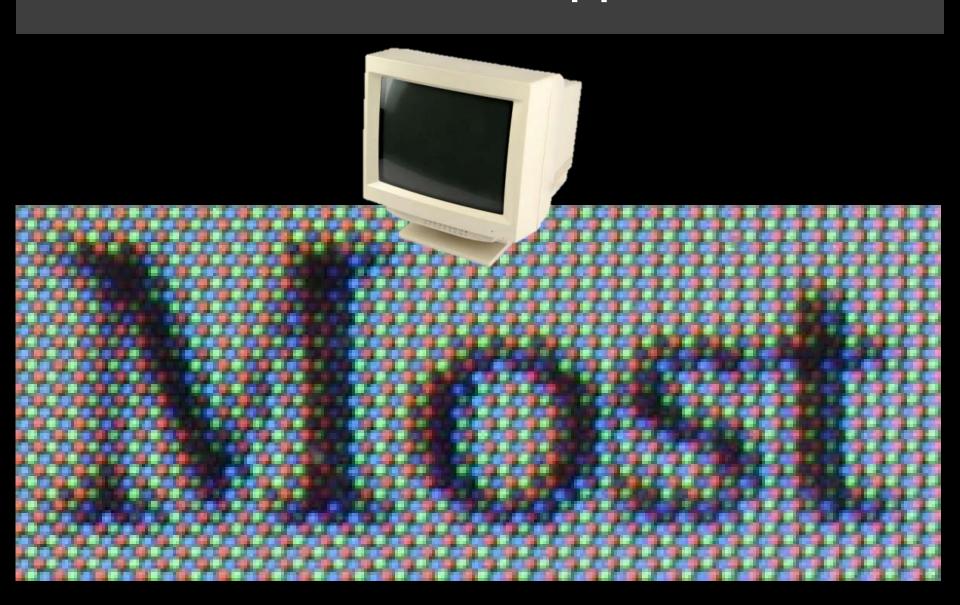


"I can't read on screens!"

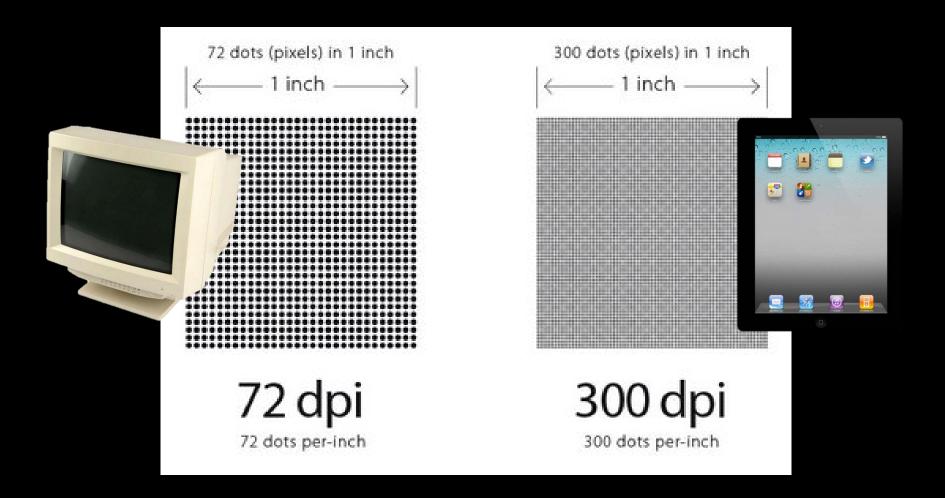
Paper = 300-600 ppi (points per inch)



CRT = 60 ppi



Tablets = ~ 300 ppi





Jakob Nielsen Usability expert

"[W]e have known for decades that 300 PPI screens offer dramatically faster reading speed than low-density monitors."

No. 11-398

In the Supreme Court of the United States

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL., PETITIONERS

91

STATE OF FLORIDA, ET AL.

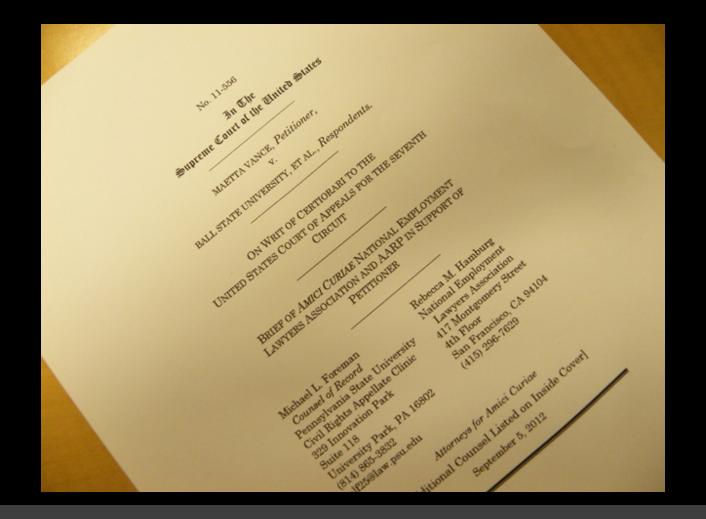
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> > Solicitor General
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> > Assistant Attorney General
> > EDWIN S. KNEEDLER



Changing Court Culture



Lawyers currently write for paper





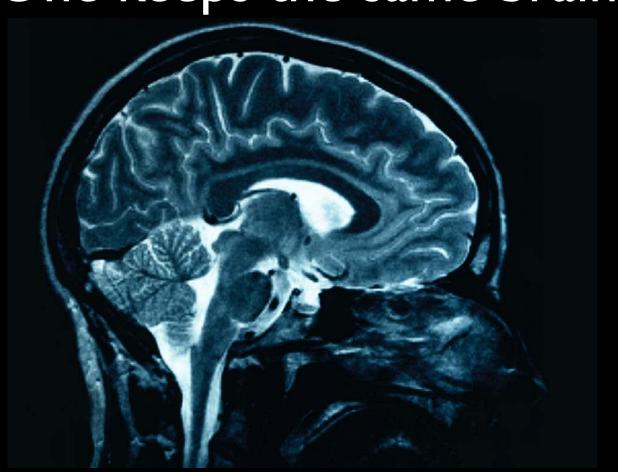
... for judges and clerks who read on screens.

At home, judges read online.



Home → Screen Work → Screen

One keeps the same brain.



Oklahoma Vows Review of Botched Execution

By Erik Eckholm, John Schwartz, www.nytimes.com

View Original

April 30th, 2014



Jerry Massie, spokesman for the state Corrections Department, waited to be told Clayton D. Lockett had died. Credit John Clanton/Tulsa World Photo by: John Clanton/Tulsa World

McALESTER, Okla. — As Clayton D. Lockett writhed and groaned on the gurney on Tuesday night after a large dose of sedatives had apparently not been fully delivered, the Oklahoma chief of corrections rushed to call the governor and the attorney general. Something had gone disastrously

OCTOBER TERM, 2011

Syllabus

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ET AL. v. SEBELIUS, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL.

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

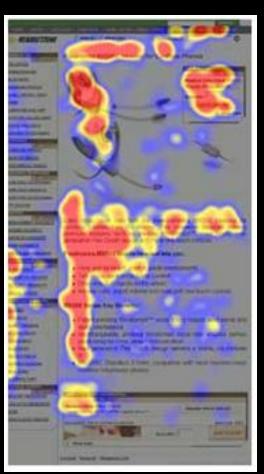
No. 11-393. Argued March 26, 27, 28, 2012—Decided June 28, 2012*

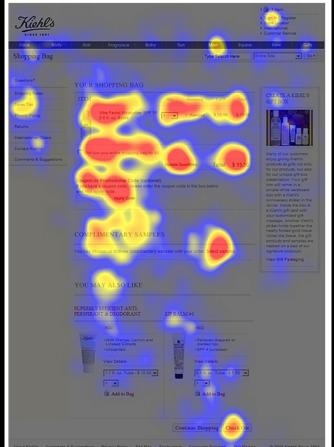
No. 11–303. Argued March 26, 27, 28, 2012—Decided June 28, 2012. In 2010, Congress enacted the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in order to increase the number of Americans covered by health insurance and decrease the cost of health care. One two provision is insurance and electrons the cost of health care. One two provision is a minimum caseratial health insurance coverage, 20 U. S. C. §5000A. For individuals who are not exceeping, and who do not review health insurance through an employer or government program, the means of assisting the requirement is to parchase insurance retree in private assisting the requirement of the parthaba insurance retree in private analoging the requirement is to gravitate insurance from a private mandate must make a "fidhered responsibility partners" to the Federal Government, 15000A0(1). The Act provides that his penalty will be paid to the Internal Revenue Service with an individual's tast-productive and the patient of the control of the

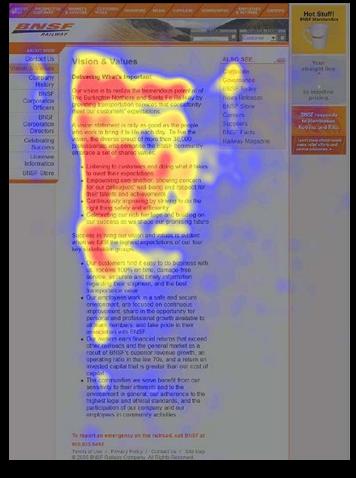
es, and "shall be assessed and collected in the same manner" as tax penaltics, \$\frac{1}{2}\text{OMMA}\text{o}_i(git)\text{.}
Another key provision of the Act is the Medicaid expansion. The current Medicaid program offers federal funding to States to assist pregnant women, children, needy families, the blimi, the elderly, and the disabled in obtaining medical care. \$2.0. S. C. \$\frac{1}{2}\text{OMMA}\text{o}_i = \frac{1}{2}\text{OMMA}\text{o}_i = \frac{1}{2}\text{o}\text{o}_i = \frac{1}{2}\text{o}\te

^{*}Together with No. 11–398, Department of Health and Human Services et al. v. Florida et al., and No. 11–400, Florida et al. v. Department of Health and Human Services et al., also on certiorari to the same

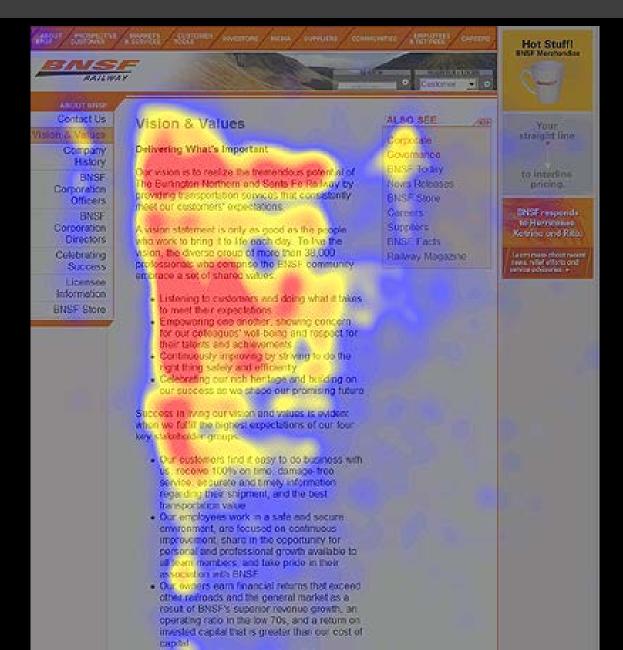
Eye-tracking studies







F Patterns



Vision & Values

Delivering What's Important

Our vision is to realize the tremendous potent of of this Burkington Northern and Sents Fe Re Iway by providing transportation services that consistently most our customers' expectations.

A vision statement is only as good as the proble who work to bring it to life each day. To live the word, the diverse group of more than 38,000 professionals who comprise the ENSE community officines a sot of shared values.

- Listening to customers and doing what it takes to meet their expectations
- Empawering one enother: showing concern for our cotologies' wot being and respect for their talents and achievements.
- Continuously improving by striving to do the right thing safety and efficienty
- Celebrating our rich herdage and building on our success as we shape our promising future.

Success in avergiour vision and values is evident when we fulfill are highest expectations of our four losy statesticities groups.

- Our customers find it easy to do business with us, receive 100% on time, camage free service, accurate and timely information regarding their shipment, and the best transportation value.
- Our employees work in a safe and secure environment, are focused on continuous improvement share in the opportunity for personal and professional growth available to all learn members, and take price in their essociation with BNSF
- Our owners earn financial returns that exceed other ratioads and the general market as a result of BNSF's superior revenue growth, an operating ratio in the low 70s, and a return on invested capital that is greater than our cost of capital.

"[E]ye tracking supports that users do not read all of the content on a Web page."

—Usability.gov

Vision & Values

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"Obviously the most important information should be in the first two paragraphs."

—Usability.gov

Vision & Values

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"[U]tilize techniques for making content easier to read.

- Highlight keywords
- use headings
- write short paragraphs
- utilize lists."

—Usability.gov

The Elements of Typographic Style second edition, revised & enlarged



ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR POLISHED & PERSUASIVE DOCUMENTS

BY MATTHEW BUTTERICK FOREWORD BY BRYAN A. GARNER



The Complete Manual of

JAMES FELICI Foreward by France Romano



The Chicago Manual of Style SIXTEENTH EDITION

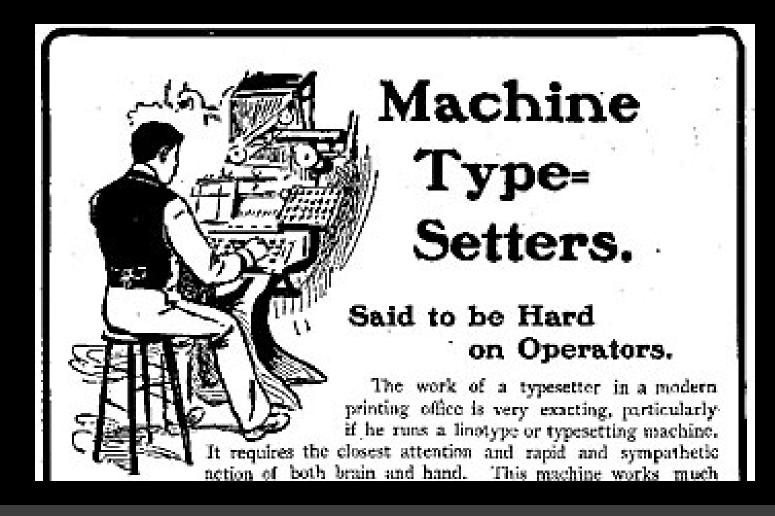
Writers, Editors, and Publishers

The Winning Brief

100 Tips for Persuasive Briefing in **Trial and Appellate Courts**

Bryan A. Garner

Ask professionals.



Better fonts

Remember Courier?



Times New Roman (1932)



LONDON, WEINNENDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 16th

THE

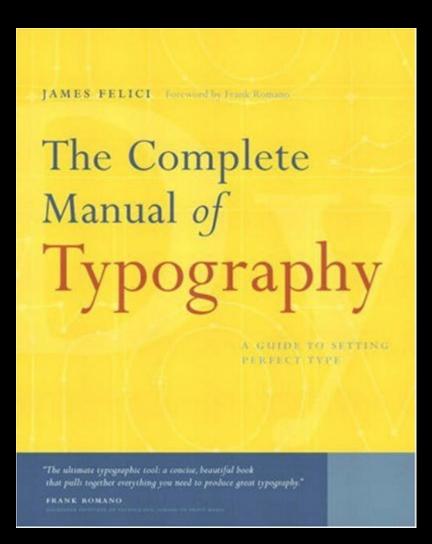


TIMES

LONDON MONDAY OCTOBER 3 1932

EFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ ghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Condensed = more text per page



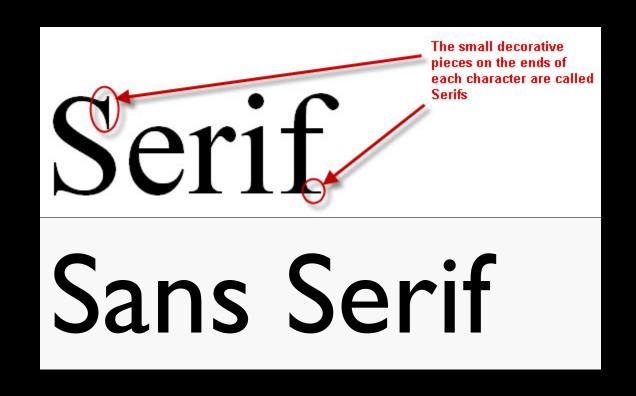
"Times is not a classic text face. Designed for use by the Times of London (as its new roman face, back in the 1930s), it has comparatively narrow characters, the better to compose well in the short lines of newspaper columns."

But don't most courts require Times New Roman?



No.

Most require only serif fonts.



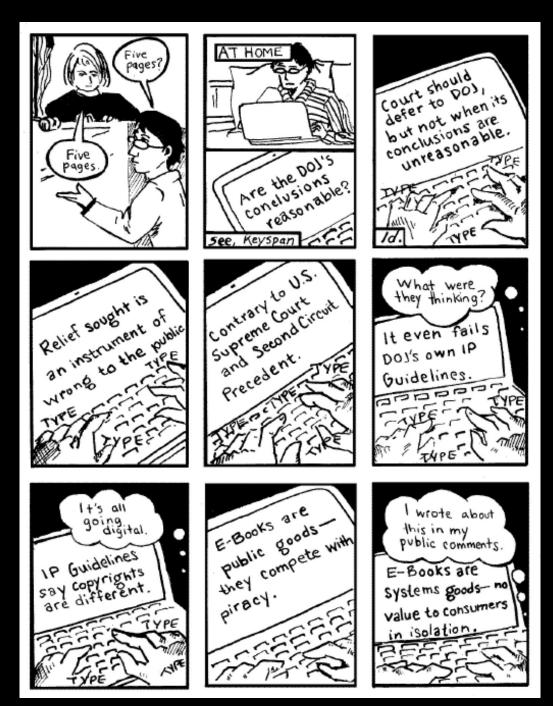
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

))
)
)
) Civil Action No.12-CV-2826 (DLC)
)))))))))))
))

BRIEF OF BOB KOHN AS AMICUS CURLAE*

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^{*}Five-page version of Proposed Brief Amicus Curiae at Docket No. 97.





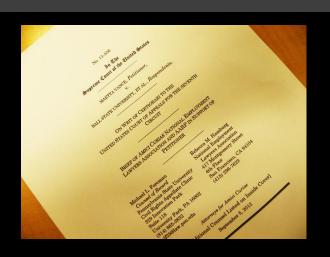




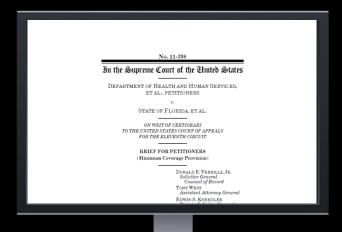
Fed. R. App. P. 32(a)

- (5) Typeface. ...
 - a. A proportionally spaced face must include serifs, but sans-serif type may be used in headings and captions.

Conventional Wisdom

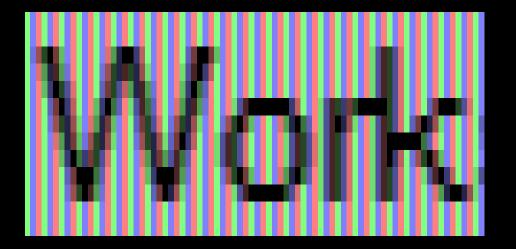


Paper = Serif
(e.g., Book Antiqua)



Screens = Sans Serif (e.g., Arial)

wind



But we don't know how judges will read briefs paper or screens.

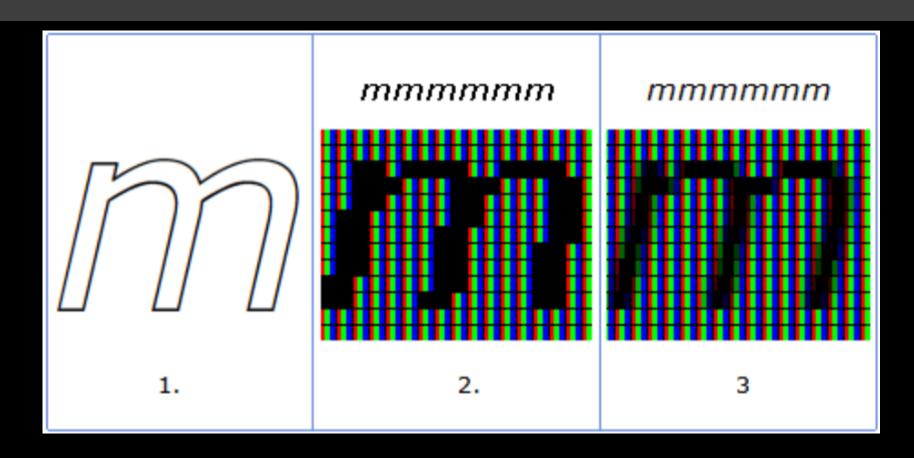
What can we do?



Joe Friend Microsoft

"To support digital consumption, the new fonts were created to improve screen readability. They [Microsoft employees] do this via a technology called ClearType."

LCDs – ClearType



No ClearType ClearType

Fonts Designed for ClearType

Cambria

The five boxing wizards jump quickly

Calibri

The five boxing wizards jump quickly

Constantia

The five boxing wizards jump quickly

Candara

The five boxing wizards jump quickly

Serif

Sans Serif

Headings

- More white space before than after
- Keep with next
- Slightly larger (lpt) than body text

A. Eliminate Times New Roman

Seventh Circuit

"Professional typographers avoid using Times New brief-length) documents. This face was designed for new narrow columns, and has a small x-height in order to squ narrow space. Type with a small x-height functions well it

Heading 2

Heading 3

Body Text

Footnotes?

(Slip Opinion)

OCTOBER TERM, 2011

Syllabus

NOTE: Where it is feasible, a syllabus (headnote) will be released, as is being done in connection with this case, at the time the opinion is issued. The syllabus constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court but has been prepared by the Roptro Decisions for the convenience of the reader. See United States v. Dertor Timber & Lumber Co., 200 U. S. 23, 337.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Syllabus

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ET AL. v. SEBELIUS, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL.

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

No. 11–393. Argued March 26, 27, 28, 2012—Decided June 28, 20 2*

In 2010, Congress enacted the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in order to increase the number of Americans covered by health insurance and decrease the cost of health care. One key provision is the individual mandate, which requires most Americans to maintain "minimum essential" health insurance coverage. 26 U.S.C. §5000A. For individuals who are not exempt, and who do not receive health insurance through an employer or government program, the means of satisfying the requirement is to purchase insurance from a private company. Beginning in 2014, those who do not comply with the mandate must make a "[s]hared responsibility payment" to the Federal Government. §5000A(b)(1). The Act provides that this "penalty" will be paid to the Internal Revenue Service with an individual's taxes, and "shall be assessed and collected in the same manner" as tax penalties. §§5000A(c), (g)(1).

Another key provision of the Act is the Medicaid expansion. The current Medicaid program offers federal funding to States to assist eady families the blind the alderly and



Simplify

Resist the temptation to make more



You need less.



Hyperlinks in briefs

Potentially thousands of pages (within page limits)



... but beware PDF/A



"The Judiciary is planning to change ... from PDF to PDF/A."

"The effect on hyperlinks will vary depending on the specific PDF writer used to create or convert the document."

Some Acrobat versions will NOT automatically open some hyperlinks.

Documents cannot be so complex (rich) that the reader is lost

AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY

I. The Beginnings of American Law, to 1760

- a. Early Constitutionalism in America
 - i. American colonists frequently asserted their "ancient rights" as English people
 - ii. The English have a cultural tradition of protecting their rights against tyranny/ bad kings
 - iii. Magna Carta 1215
 - Response to King John. Barons, etc forced him to sign it. It was
 designed to protect the barons and their property. Later, became
 more of an idealized myth of the English people of how they love
 liberty/ hate tyranny
 - a. Became an underlying aspect of American Revolution
 - 2. The fact that the government (king) is subject to the law was a radical idea at the time
 - 3. Rights Established:
 - a. Right to trial by jury
 - b. Law of the land → rudimentary idea of due process
 - i. The law is an external check on the King

Especially for screens

Cannot as easily flip between pages

(Sip Opinion) OCTOBER TERM, 2011 1

Syllabus

NOTE: When is a feasible, a pitches dominated will be released, as is being done in connection with the case, at the time the opinion is inseed. The property of the Register of Economic Bett and the Control of the season.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

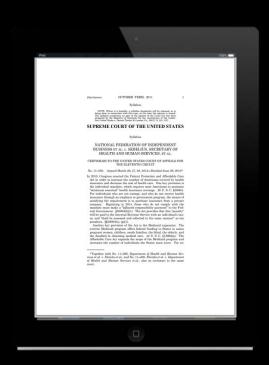
Syllabus

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ET AL. v. SEBELIUS, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL.

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

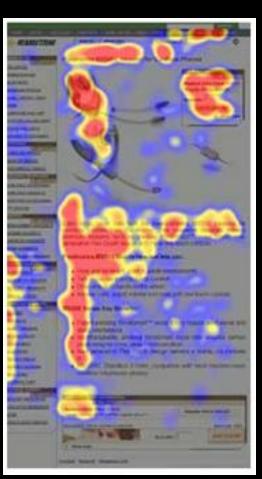
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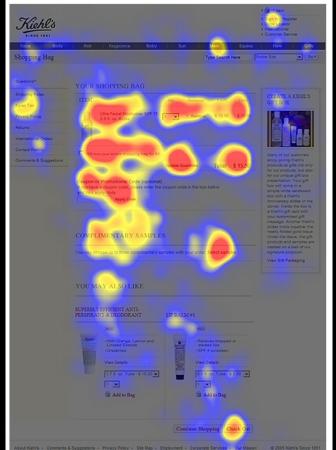
pennitive sporocovic and the Act is the Medicaid expansion. The current Medicaid program effects federal funding to States to assist prognant women, children, needy families, the blind, the elderly, and the disabled in obtaining medical care, 42 U.S. C. § 13006(a). The Affordable Care Act expands the scope of the Medicaid program and increases the number of individuals the States must cover. For ex-

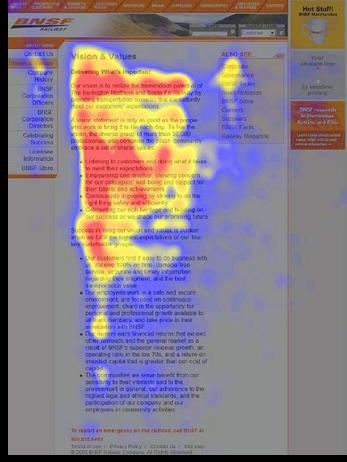


^{*}Together with No. 11–398, Department of Health and Human Services et al. v. Florida et al., and No. 11–409, Florida et al. v. Department of Health and Human Services et al., also on certiorari to the same court.

Skimmable and digestible







Tech is not an excuse to bury the court



E-discovery buries us; we shouldn't bury courts





Great briefs vs. Winning Briefs



"The difference between the great brief and the winning brief is not one of grammar and style.
...The difference

... The difference instead is focus."

Great briefs vs. Winning Briefs

"It requires an author to choose the best argument and then intentionally to omit other arguments."



ARTICLE: Great briefs vs. Winning Briefs



"Most judges are average. Most days are average. Most winning briefs are aimed at the average judge on the average day. Great briefs are not."

Those concepts apply doubly to screens



Questions?



FIN