

Other News

- If you've received a Library fines notice, please pay at the Circulation Desk anytime Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, before the end of classes, or your grades may be withheld. Please also be sure to return all overdue Library books before the exam period begins.
- As you start preparing for finals, don't forget about CALI, the Center for Computer-Assisted Learning Instruction. Log on at <http://www.cali.org/lesson> and you'll find almost one thousand legal tutorials on a number of topics. (One of the more interesting tools is "Lessons by Casebook," which highlights lessons based on pages in almost a hundred different textbooks.) If you need the ASL authorization code to create an account, it's **[not in online version!]** [which is case-sensitive]. If you're more of a book person, we have many study guides, including Hornbooks and Nutshells, Examples and Explanations, and the Friedman's series – just ask at the Circulation/Reserve Desk and we'll tell you what we have available.
- When most people think of December, they think of the holidays or the cold winter weather. But the astute legal types always look forward to the changes to the federal rules from the Judicial Conference of the United States. Each year (usually in the spring), the collection of judges and lawyers sends tweaks – or sometimes wholesale changes – to Congress; if Congress doesn't act, the rules go into effect on December 1. Most of the updates this year deal with bankruptcy, with several new rules and forms. The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure get two big updates: one requiring a defendant to raise before trial an objection that an indictment failed to state an offense, and one requiring notice to defendants of "consular notification obligations" arising out of a number of treaties. Likewise, the Federal Rules of Evidence have some interesting changes, including one that clarifies who has the burden of proof when business and public records are introduced under the hearsay rule, and a second hearsay update clarifies when prior inconsistent statements can be admitted. To read about these changes, check out the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' web page (it's the last link on the page) at <http://www.uscourts.gov/RulesAndPolicies/rules/pending-rules.aspx>
- It seems the fashion police have taken a legal turn this summer, paying visits to two courthouses due to some perceived transgressions. A district judge in York, Pennsylvania, recently put up a sign in his courtroom that said "Pajamas are not appropriate attire for district court." (The other sign he added noted "Money from undergarments will not be accepted," but we're not sure we want to hear the reason for that one.) A bit further westward, the Blackford, Indiana, Circuit Court admonished an attorney for not being clad in "appropriate business attire" as he was not wearing socks. The court also pointed out the same attorney had previously appeared "without wearing a tie and while wearing an open-collared shirt."