

**Alvarez Outline Assignment**  
**Prof. Ann Sinsheimer**

For 2/5, please construct an outline for the Ninth Circuit Opinion. Submit this outline on-line according to the instructions below:

**Part I: Creating your outline.** Open the 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. opinion in a Word file. As you read the opinion, consider the following questions and highlight those sentences in the opinion text that most directly answer the questions:

- What legal *conclusions* does the author make in the argument?
- What *claims* does the author make in the argument, that is, what assertions does the author make in support of (or opposing) a legal conclusion or another claim?
- What legal *authorities* does the author cite in support of (or opposing) the claims and legal conclusions?
- What *reasons* does the author supply in order to explain and justify how the citations, claims and conclusions support each other?
- What *counterarguments* does the author consider?
- What *reasons* does the author supply in order to explain and justify how the author's citations, claims and conclusions counter the counterarguments?

Next, paraphrase the highlighted sentences into a Word file. These sentences can serve as the basis of entries in your outline. You may also cut and paste the court's language, but USE CAUTION here. If you cut and paste the court's language, make sure to enclose the language within quotation marks and include a citation with the page upon which this quote appears. Even if you paraphrase the language, be sure to include the citation to the original source.

Finally, you should impose outline-style indentation on the list of sentences to indicate what the major legal conclusions are, which claims support which conclusions or other claims (and the reasons why), which citations support which claims and conclusions (and the reasons why), what counterarguments were considered, and what citations, claims and conclusions were employed to counter the counterarguments (and the reasons why).

**Part II:** Submit your outline to Prof. Sinsheimer by MIDNIGHT, FEB. 5, 2012 by uploading your Word file via the Web using the following URL:

<http://moti.lrdc.pitt.edu/dropbox.html>

The website will ask for your name (which you should also include in your outline) and for your LASAD username and password. Please try to use Mozilla Firefox for the submission as the website has not been fully tested with other browsers (Information for installing Firefox, which is free for all users, is available at <http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/fx/>). If you have any issues with the upload or with installing Firefox please feel free to e-mail Mohammad Falakmassir (falakmassir@cs.pitt.edu) or Collin Lynch (collinl@cs.pitt.edu).