Jane Bronco  
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Santa Clara University School of Law  
Writing Sample

This writing sample is an excerpt from a legal memorandum I wrote for my first-year legal writing course. The sample is based on my own research. My professor critiqued a previous draft of this memo, and this version incorporates his suggestions.

Background facts:

The plaintiffs in this case, the Millers, and the defendants, the Daleys, own adjacent residential lots. The Millers’ property abuts the Daleys’ property from the north. Twenty years ago, the Millers planted a line of trees from east to west within the Daleys’ property, operating on the mistaken belief that their land extended thirty feet south beyond the actual, surveyed property line. Since that time, the Millers have occasionally used the thirty-foot strip of property. The Millers have now sued the Daleys for adverse possession of the thirty-foot strip. This excerpt of the discussion addresses whether the Millers can establish exclusive use of the Daleys’ property, a required element of adverse possession.
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October 7, 2013

Writing Sample

Attached please find a copy of a Brief in Support of a Motion for Summary Judgment. I created this document in the course of my employment with XYZ Law Firm, and submit it as an example of my writing with permission of Attorney Jane Doe. The document has been excerpted to exclude a discussion of a breach of contract issue, and confidential information has been redacted. The entire document is available upon your request.
To: Prospective Employer  
From: Jane Bronco  
Re: Writing Sample  
Date: October 7, 2013

The attached writing sample is the final draft of an interoffice memo I wrote for Legal Research and Writing, a class I took during the fall semester of my first year of law school. During the drafting process I revised the memo based on comments and suggestions from my professor. However, the writing is entirely my own.

The assignment centered on charges of criminal trespass and burglary against a pair of students who had occupied a college administration building as part of a protest against tuition increases. I was assigned to represent one of the defendants, Alex Cabrera, in the lawsuit. The interoffice memo analyzes the sufficiency of the complaint filed against Ms. Cabrera.

Under the facts of the simulation scenario, the defendants entered the college administration building lawfully while it was open to the public. However, the defendants remained in the building after the college’s dean of students directed them to leave. Later that night the defendants went into administrative offices, ostensibly looking for a place to sleep. The legal issue for the criminal trespass charge was whether the dean’s statement constituted a lawful order not to remain and, if so, whether the students defied the order when they stayed in the building after his announcement. The legal issue for an additional trespass charge and burglary was whether the defendants entered an area of the building that was not open to the public and, if so, whether they did so with intent to commit a crime.
WRITING SAMPLE

This writing sample is a Pitchess motion I drafted as a legal intern for the Marin County Public Defender’s Office during the fall of my second year. It was edited only slightly by my supervising attorney for stylistic purposes. My supervising attorney signed the motion which was granted in part, but the work that appears here was written entirely by me. I obtained permission from my attorney to use this sample and names and other identifying information have been redacted.
Writing Sample

This writing sample is a section of a brief I wrote for my 1L Legal Research and Writing class, spring semester. Please note that the sample has been edited down to 10 pages. To do so, I deleted my first argument and included only the second argument. The writing is my own, with revisions based on comments and suggestions from my professor.

For the purposes of this sample, please assume that the plaintiff, Sammy Subtenant, is considered a “tenant” under the Ellis Act. Argument Two then addresses the issue of whether the Ellis Act was violated by Larry Landlord.