

College of Visual Arts
Art and the Law
Trial Brief Instructions

As part of the trial exercise, you will each write a short trial brief setting forth the legal position of your side of the case. The brief will be due on December 5, 2011, the first day of the trial. The brief will be about five pages long, double-spaced, and contain the following sections:

1. Brief statement of facts.
2. Argument section: the major legal issues and legal principles and how these apply to the facts of this case.
3. Conclusion that re-states the reasons why the relief demanded by your side should be granted.

The legal authorities for your brief should be the cases we have discussed in class and the current version of the U.S. Copyright Act. If you find other cases that support your side, you may include those, too, but you may base your argument on the cases we have already discussed and the statute.

When you discuss cases, be sure to include the case name (format: *Smith v. Jones*). When you cite sections of the copyright statute, use the proper citation format (e.g. 17 U.S.C. §505). A link to the copyright statute is located on the course web site or can easily be found through a web search.

You will each prepare your own trial brief. You may share research, but should each write your own version of the argument.

If you have questions about the brief, ask Sue.