

CASE BRIEF (25%)

A brief is a succinct condensation of essential case information in an organized manner. In briefing the case, organize the relevant information in accordance with the following format:

- 1) **Cite case at top center of page.** Example of correct citation: Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, 490 U.S. 228 (1989)
- 2) **Facts:** In a paragraph or two, explain what happened as if you were telling a story. If there are lower court decisions, include them.
- 3) **Issue:** This is the main issue the Court must decide. Normally it is presented as a question. It is as though you were the judge and you are telling someone what the question is that you must decide to resolve on a certain problem; specify the issue which the highest court must resolve. The case citation will tell you which court or body is deciding the case. This will be a few sentences, depending upon how many issues the court is addressing.
- 4) **Holding:** This is the Court's decision. This section will be a paragraph or two, depending on the number of issues the court was considering.
- 5) **Rationale:** What is the Court's reason for doing what it did? You should be concerned with the decision of the highest court. This section will be several paragraphs long and will likely include citations from other cases upon which the court relied in making their decision.
- 6) **Impact:** In this section, address what employers and managers must do to comply with the new case law. This will be a couple of paragraphs.
- 7) **Your Analysis:** Your case analysis is your statement of why you agree or disagree with the Court's decision. The concurring or dissenting opinion, if there is one, will provide you with ideas. Your analysis should be no more than an additional three or four paragraphs.

In total, your paper should be no less than 4 pages and no more than 6 pages, double spaced. Logic, Grammar, and Style will also be graded. Your brief and analysis must be typed.