

SALLY STUDENT

123 Main Street, Apt. #2 • Madison, WI 53706 • (608) 555-5555 • sally.student@wisc.edu

Writing Sample

I drafted the following writing sample for my Legal Research and Writing II course in the spring of 2017. This excerpt includes only the nine-page argument section of my appellate brief. I have excluded the table of contents, table of authorities, statement of issue, statement of facts, and summary of argument sections.

The issue was whether the District Court erred in denying an automatic stay of the Court's proceedings while the appellant appealed the Court's order denying a motion to compel arbitration under the Federal Arbitration Act.

As background, the underlying suit was an action under state law for false-light defamation and wrongful termination brought in federal court under diversity jurisdiction. The appellee, Moses Baran, sued MJ Records after MJ Records' Chief Executive Officer terminated Baran's employment due to sexual harassment allegations. In response to Baran's suit, MJ Records filed a motion to compel arbitration of the dispute pursuant to the arbitration clause in Baran's employment contract. The District Court denied the motion to compel arbitration and also denied MJ Records' motion to impose an automatic stay on the case pending appeal. Subsequently, MJ Records filed an appeal of the District Court's order denying the company's motion for an automatic stay on the Court's proceedings pending resolution of the arbitrability appeal. The Fourteenth Circuit granted MJ Records' motion to appeal.

SALLY STUDENT

123 Main Street, Apt. #2 • Madison, WI 53706 • (608) 555-5555 • sally.student@wisc.edu

Writing Sample

I drafted the following writing sample during my 2L summer at the Rock County Public Defender's Office. This excerpt includes only the nine-page argument section of a brief in support of a Motion to Suppress. I have excluded the statement of facts.

The issue was whether a law enforcement officer engaged in custodial interrogation such that he should have read my client the *Miranda* rights. I drafted the brief and use it as a writing sample with my supervising attorney's permission. I have changed the names of the minor children who testified at the suppression hearing to Tommy Smith and Sally Jones.