Plain Language Drafting (10%)

You must analyze a legal document and translate it into plain English using plain language drafting principles. We will review these principles in class. Further information is available in the SEC’s A Plain Language Handbook, available at http://www.sec.gov/news/extra/handbook.htm. The audience for the plain language translation of the document is a college-educated reader who has no legal training.

The plain language drafting exercise is due at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 8-30-10. You must submit the assignment online, through TWEN. There is no page limit on the translation, but it would be very unusual for your translation to be longer than three pages, and many may be significantly shorter.

You will be graded on the following criteria:

- Translation of source document balances clarity and precision;
- Plain language translation is appropriate for its audience;
- Plain language translation demonstrates understanding of plain language drafting principles of design, organization, sentence-structure, and word choice;
- Mechanics --- spelling, grammar, syntax and punctuation --- are flawless;
- Document is presented in double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman type with no more than 24 lines of type per page, with one inch margins, has no footnotes, is paginated and has your name on each page;
- Document is submitted on time.
If any person carries about his person, hidden from common observation, (i) any pistol, revolver, or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind by action of an explosion of any combustible material; (ii) any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, razor, slingshot, spring stick, metal knocks, or blackjack; (iii) any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain; (iv) any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart; or (v) any weapon of like kind as those enumerated in this subsection, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. A second violation of this section or a conviction under this section subsequent to any conviction under any substantially similar ordinance of any county, city, or town shall be punishable as a Class 6 felony, and a third or subsequent such violation shall be punishable as a Class 5 felony. For the purpose of this section, a weapon shall be deemed to be hidden from common observation when it is observable but is of such deceptive appearance as to disguise the weapon's true nature.

This section shall not apply to any person while in his own place of abode or the curtilage thereof. This section shall not apply to:

1. Any person while in his own place of business;

2. Any law-enforcement officer, wherever such law-enforcement officer may travel in the Commonwealth;

3. Any regularly enrolled member of a target shooting organization who is at, or going to or from, an established shooting range, provided that the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

4. Any regularly enrolled member of a weapons collecting organization who is at, or going to or from, a bona fide weapons exhibition, provided that the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

5. Any person carrying such weapons between his place of abode and a place of purchase or repair, provided the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

6. Any person actually engaged in lawful hunting, as authorized by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries, under inclement weather conditions necessitating temporary protection of his firearm from those conditions, provided that possession of a handgun while engaged in lawful hunting shall not be construed as hunting with a handgun if the person hunting is carrying a valid concealed handgun permit.