Briefing a Court Case

(Oral Presentation in Class)

- 1. identify the <u>parties</u> to the litigation
- 2. identify the <u>court</u> hearing case, prior history (i.e., lower courts that heard the case), and the date
- 3. state the "material" (i.e., relevant) facts of the case
- 4. identify the <u>legal issue</u> before the court
- 5. state the court's "holding" (one general sentence, the principle of law); the "holding" is more general than the actual decision or ruling (i.e., "the plaintiff wins")
- 6. explain the legal <u>reasoning</u> behind the court's decision