

December 29, 2020

MEMORANDUM

Re: Initial Reading Assignments for the First Amendment Law Survey

For our first class meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021, please read and be prepared to discuss pages 713-749 of Krotoszynski, Wells, Lidsky & Corbin, *THE FIRST AMENDMENT: CASES AND THEORY* (Aspen Publishers 3d ed. 2017). For our second class meeting, on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, please read and be prepared to discuss pages 749-784. I will distribute the complete course syllabus at our first class meeting. Let me also note the this course will be taught on an “in person” basis – although several class sessions, as noted on the syllabus, will be taught via Zoom (rather than rescheduled and taught as make-up sessions).

Please note that we will begin our study of the First Amendment with a survey of the Religion Clauses. After completing our study of the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses (by early February), we will then turn our efforts to the Free Speech, Assembly, Press, and Petition Clauses in addition to the implied First Amendment right of freedom of association.

As the syllabus will explain in greater detail, the final examination will be a self-scheduled take-home exam (likely with two or three questions). The specific details for its administration will be determined after consultation with the enrolled students and a class discussion. However, I typically allow 48-72 hours from the time a student obtains the exam for the student to complete it and submit answers. The final exam will consist of traditional law school essay questions, with detailed fact patterns, calling for essay answers. We will mutually agree on a maximum page limit for exam essay answers – in past years, the applicable page limit has ranged from 12 pages (typed, with double spaced text, using standard margins) to 20 pages. Most years, the students have proposed a page limit of 12-15 pages (plus a cover page) and I always have acquiesced in the students’ page limit preference.

Prof. Ronald J. Krotoszynski, Jr.