WORKPLACE LAW

Major Reading Assignment #1

It is always difficult to estimate how much reading we will cover in a given class session. Some Workplace Law topics require more depth and discussion than others and, although this need can often be determined in advance, it may depend on the nature of the discussion and understanding revealed in a given class session. In addition, several classes will largely address hypothetical problems as a way of checking understanding or involve the showing and discussion of video or film clips, which may cause us to cover only a minimal amount of reading. Conversely, and less likely, some classes may involve lecture, which will allow us to cover more of the assigned reading than usual.

In looking over the materials we will need to address this semester, my math indicates that, on average, we will need to cover approximately 65-70 pages per week class session from the assigned text. This translates to approximately 16-18 pages per class hour in this four (4) credit hour class.

Keeping in mind this 65-70 pages per week average, and with the understanding that I will try to inform you at the end of each class session how much material we will likely cover in the next class session or two, the first major reading assignment -- which is from the Crain et al. text, covers January’s and most of February’s class sessions, is in the page order in which you should read it, and, for the reasons described above, is not attached to dates certain -- is as follows:

I. Introductory Material – Preface, pp. xi-xiii; Part One – Introduction: Regulating Work, pp. 1-2; Chapter 1 – Origins, pp. 3-9 (up to but not including “B. The Rise and Fall of Freedom of Contract”); and

One last point. Stay ahead of the reading assignments – but not by too much. Falling behind will leave you unprepared for class and may cause you to dig a hole from which you may not be able to get out. Conversely, getting too far ahead in the reading, although far less of an evil than falling behind, will cause you to either reread the assignment more times in order to be prepared for class (which is okay but may unduly multiply your work) or, failing that, not be prepared for class (which is obviously not okay).