Instructions: This is an open-book exam. You may use any materials to help you complete the exam questions.

In order to allow for anonymous grading, please mark your exam with only your assigned exam number, and email to Tina.brooks@uky.edu. She will print out the papers and then pass them on to me. After grading, names will be attached in order to combine with other class assignments to achieve the final course grade. You have two hours to complete the exam.

You are an associate in a busy and productive law firm. As part of your responsibilities, any partner may ask you to find information vital to his or her current cases. Although the partner is simply interested in the correct information, you are also answerable to the office manager and the firm librarian. The manager is charged to track costs within the firm, so s/he will want to know that you did not waste the firm’s financial resources by paying more for information than you needed to. The librarian, too, reviews your work, and as part of your annual performance review will evaluate the efficiency of your search strategies.

Your responses to each of the questions below should therefore contain three parts reflecting these three aspects of legal research:

(1) Provide to the partner the correct answer to the question;

(2) Inform the librarian where you located this information and the search strategy/query you used to identify it. If your work requires more than one step, provide this information for each step; and

(3) Justify to the account manager the choices you made about where to obtain this information; clarify any assumptions you make in your explanation.

Assume you have in the firm all resources to which you currently have access.

1. As part of an argument of state policy, the attorney wishes to refer to the very first public law passed by the Kentucky legislature after it became a state. Find that law, and provide the title and date of passage.

2. A partner is writing an article on the role of humor during U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments. How many times during the first day of hearings on “Obamacare” does the record reflect laughing, and, if any, which Justice(s) provoked the outburst?
3. The partner wants to cite to 605 N.E.2d 539 for an important point of law, and has asked you to determine whether the case is still good law, and provide a citation to the most recent journal secondary source that cites to the case. What results do you provide?

4. The IP section of the firm has a client that has received a notification of copyright violation because she posted knitting patterns to help others recreate characters from the popular BBC serial, Dr. Who. The lead attorney on the project has become very intrigued by recent copyright proposals, and has asked you to provide a legislative history for a particularly controversial one called SOPA. He specifically wants the following information about any related senate proposals: (1) Who introduced it and on what date; (2) were there any committee reports; and (3) what was the last date on which any action was taken?

5. A client has hired your firm to represent him in a suit concerning the labeling of his products. Some years earlier he had moved from Europe to a reservation in the American southwest in order to pursue his interest in Native American art. After studying with a local expert, he opened an online store to sell his own works, and certifies them as 100% authentic indigenous pottery. A customer, learning the details of his training, has demanded the return of his money. His teacher verifies that his works are indistinguishable from those made by her other students. Your task is to identify any federal regulations that might be relevant to the case.