

(as of 7nov6)

**How to Develop A Summary**  
of a personally experienced case of judicial misconduct  
on one side of a sheet of paper with hyperlinks to supporting documents  
**and A Synoptic Paragraph**  
that further summarizes the case in 150 words or less

1. The Watergate-like *Follow the money!* investigation of judges' coordinated wrongdoing will pursue leads, such as those found in publicly filed bankruptcy petitions and their financial schedules, through the judges' webs of personal and financial relationships all the way to concealed assets. This investigation will be conducted by lawyers as well as investigative journalists of the traditional media or the new media, that is, bloggers and citizens' newspapers on the Internet. To facilitate the organization and widest use of the evidence uncovered, they will devise as their key evidentiary instrument the Table of Judicial Wrongdoing Across the Nation.
2. This Table will list in a column each of the 50 states, for each of which each of a selected handful of the most promising federal and state cases from a journalistic and legal standpoint will be listed in a row, whose cells will provide essential docket information and hyperlinks to the most relevant court documents and news articles. One of those cells will provide the case-type identifier that will hyperlink to the case synopsis.
3. The most important paragraph and most difficult to craft professionally, the case synopsis will frequently be the only one read by those choosing which case to investigate or looking for an overview of judicial wrongdoing nationwide. It will describe in 150 words or less the information that enables the first paragraph of a well-written news article to grab the attention of the reader and make her want to read on for details, the so-called six W's: what, where, when, who, how, and why. This should suffice to state the nature of the legal controversy and issues at stake.
4. The Table of Cases accompanying the Statement of Facts is a prototype of that Table.<sup>1</sup> While the Statement summarizes in 10 pages<sup>2</sup> over 6,500 pages of evidentiary documents posted on <http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org>, the Table contains in a very concise presentation docket information about 12 related federal cases and links to their most relevant briefs. Moreover, the title above it summarizes what those cases have in common and why they are relevant to the issue of judicial wrongdoing. The Table provides identifying data distributed in labeled cells, whereas the title sets forth in prose descriptive information connecting the case settings, that is, the six W's.
5. The Table can be produced by culling such data from hundreds or thousands of pages and

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<sup>1</sup> [http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Table\\_of\\_cases.pdf](http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Table_of_cases.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/DrRCordero\\_Statement\\_of\\_Facts.pdf](http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/DrRCordero_Statement_of_Facts.pdf)

putting it in the proper cells of a system of columns and rows. The title, however, should not be tackled directly from a large number of documents. It is supposed to state in a very condensed fashion the essential elements of one or more related cases. The realization of what constitutes the essence of a case comes through the intermediary step of the summary.

6. The summary is a chronological narrative of connected events, with a beginning, a middle, and a targeted end. Like any short story, it only states what is indispensable to understand a series of events. In a legal case, this means that there are many documents, such as motions and memoranda of law, and many actions, such as hearings and depositions, that may not be mentioned at all or, if necessary as linking steps, mentioned only by their procedural titles followed by a parenthetical reference to where they can be found among the supporting documents. Unlike a short story, a summary explicitly states its moral, that is, it builds up from the beginning a persuasive presentation of those events that make that case relevant to the overall issue of coordinated judicial wrongdoing until it concludes with the statement of its target, namely, what makes that case so relevant to the reader (as opposed to what made it relevant to any of the litigants or the writer) as to win his support for denouncing such wrongdoing and advocating judicial discipline reform through apposite legislation.
7. If one were to try to craft the summary by reviewing each of scores or hundreds of documents, summarizing each, and then connecting all the resulting summaries chronologically, one is likely to end up with a piece of writing that is too long and that includes many unimportant events in the procedural history of the case. One is too close to the documents to realize what is really important. One needs to gain perspective so as to look at the case as a whole rather than concern oneself with each of its series of events. Put the documents aside and follow the method of brainstorming for the essential events of the case.
  - a. Jot down the most salient events of your case as they come to mind. Use single words or short phrases as labels for those events. This is a brainstorming exercise where you do not pass judgment upon their relative importance. Let your mind tell you what caused such an impression as to stick with it. Imagine that you just met an old and dear friend with whom you went through dramatic experiences and you are excitedly reminiscing them by just labeling those that shook you both the most...but you are writing down those labels. What you want is simply to have them in writing in front of your eyes.
  - b. Once those events stop popping up in your mind or when you have 10 or so, order them chronologically.
  - c. Identify a minimum of three and a maximum of five events in the case that are the ones that you would want anybody to remember because they represent a hazard to them. This is the key point: Nobody is interested in what happened to you as an individual. They are interested in what could happen to them. Hence, your emphasis while crafting your summary is on the aspects of your case that are of general applicability and of a threatening nature to the public at large.

- d. Link those key events by brief references to the chronologically and logically connecting events, and state a reference to a supporting document for the reader that would like to know more about them and for the purpose of lending credibility to your story, thus shown to be based on documentary evidence.
8. Keep in mind the hierarchy of documentary credibility: Documents where the author incriminates or contradicts himself are most credible since they constitute an admission against self-interest. They are followed by documents written by an unbiased, unrelated, and authoritative party that incriminate or contradict your opponent or exonerate or support you. Then there are your documents, where by the solidity of your facts, the clarity of your account, and the acuity of your logical analysis, you come across as credible and convincing.
9. The final sentence transforms the hazard in your particular case into the depiction of a general evil that threatens everybody. It is the moral of your story. In those 12 related federal cases mentioned earlier, that sentence is this:

“The justices and judges in all these federal courts and administrative offices as well as their staffs together with trustees, bankrupts, and lawyers have engaged in a series of acts so consistently in disregard of the law and the facts while in favor of or against certain parties and outcomes as to form a pattern of non-coincidental, intentional, and coordinated wrongdoing in support of a bankruptcy fraud scheme and its cover up.”

10. What do you think attracts you most, knowing this or knowing that the writer lost A, B, C to abusive judges? Apply the same key principle to the writing of your summary and it will resonate with your readers, who will try to help you in order to protect themselves.
11. That final sentence is the start for crafting the synoptic paragraph. Compare how it evolved into the title of the Table of Cases.<sup>3</sup> To arrive at that final sentence, the initial summary may have to be rewritten, revised, and reviewed many times until the essential elements of the case are identified and until the summary is no longer that one page of one sheet of paper. Summarizing is hard work. It is also what makes the difference between the reader getting to know the essence of your case and putting it away before knowing what it is about.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> [http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Table\\_of\\_cases.pdf](http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/Table_of_cases.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> See also [http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/summarize\\_complaint\\_350words.pdf](http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/docs/summarize_complaint_350words.pdf); and [http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/Follow\\_money/complaint\\_advice.pdf](http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/Follow_money/complaint_advice.pdf)