

CORPORATE COUNSEL, MAY 2003

## Blogs, Esq.

It was inevitable. Lawyer-bloggers have staked out their own Web sites to opine on life, liberty, and the law.

BY ROBERT J. AMBROGI

**T**HE NUMBER OF WEB logs—called “blogs” or, sometimes in the legal field, “blawgs”—has grown dramatically in recent months. Personal Web pages, formatted to resemble online journals, range in content from introspectively personal to pungently political.

Many bloggers see themselves as a new kind of journalist, reporting and commenting on current events in a single stroke. This is true of many lawyer-bloggers, too. Some have built loyal followings of readers who look to them to report current developments in the field and, at the same time, to provide perspective.

Here's a look at some of the Web logs that deliver news and commentary on topics related to the law:

■ **blueblanketblog**  
[blueblanket.net/Steph/blogger.html](http://blueblanket.net/Steph/blogger.html): Stephanie Tai, an appellate attorney in the environment and natural resources division of the U.S. Department of Justice, discusses selected U.S. Supreme Court and environmental cases. Most interesting are her dispatches from the Supreme Court oral arguments she occasionally attends.

■ **Consensus at Lawyerpoint**  
[bpdg.blogs.eff.org](http://bpdg.blogs.eff.org): The Electronic Frontier Foundation, an organization devoted to protecting civil liberties in cyberspace, sponsors this Web log. It follows the work of the Broadcast Protection Discussion Group and the efforts to develop a consensus on regulation of digital broadcasting.

■ **Copyright: The Politics of IP**

[corante.com/copyright](http://corante.com/copyright): Donna Wentworth, an editor at Harvard Law School's Berkman Center for Internet Law and Society, tracks legal rulings, Capitol Hill policy-making, technical standards development and technological innovation as they relate to intellectual property and the Internet.

■ **DeLawOffice.com**

[delawoffice.com/news.html](http://delawoffice.com/news.html): Larry Sullivan, a general practice lawyer in Delaware, and William Slawski, his coworker, write about Delaware law as well as the Web, the day's headlines, and law practice in general.

■ **Ernie the Attorney**

[radio.weblogs.com/0104634](http://radio.weblogs.com/0104634): Maybe it is the clever name, but more likely it is the compelling content that has made Ernest Svenson, a partner with Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan in New Orleans, one of the most popular law-related bloggers. He writes generally about law, law practice, legal technology, and the Web.

■ **Excited Utterances**

[excitedutterances.blogspot.com](http://excitedutterances.blogspot.com): Devoted to “a sociological and psychological perspective of law firm knowledge management,” this blog by Joy London, manager of the practice data group at a large law firm, provides commentary along with a number of links to useful articles and Web sites.

■ **Gideon's Promise**

[radio.weblogs.com/0108274](http://radio.weblogs.com/0108274): The infrequent musings of New Orleans criminal defense lawyer Richard Westling.

■ **HIPAA Blog**

[hipaablog.blogspot.com](http://hipaablog.blogspot.com): Jeffery Drummond, a partner with Jackson Walker in Dallas, comments on the policy and politics of medical privacy and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

■ **How Appealing**

[appellateblog.blogspot.com](http://appellateblog.blogspot.com): Thanks to Howard Bashman, chair of the appellate group at Philadelphia's Buchanan Ingersoll, this is one of the best resources on the Web for tracking appellate litigation throughout the United States.



■ **icann.Blog**

[icann.blog.us](http://icann.blog.us): A nationally known writer and commentator on Internet law, San Francisco lawyer Bret Fausett maintains this excellent blog about ICANN, the Internet naming authority.

■ **ICANNWatch**

[icannwatch.org](http://icannwatch.org): A pioneering group of Internet law scholars collaborate to maintain this blog. They include Temple University law professor David Post, Wayne State law professor Jonathan Weinberg, University of Miami law professor A. Michael Froomkin, and Mil-

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ton Mueller, associate professor at the Syracuse University School of Information Studies.

### ■ Inter Alia

inter-alia.net: Tom Mighell publishes the informative electronic newsletter Internet Legal Research Weekly and maintains this companion blog to provide timely updates of new Web sites and legal research tools.

### ■ LegalMind.org

legalmind.org: An anonymous San Francisco lawyer uses his blog as a scrapbook, collecting links to articles and cases he finds interesting, with an emphasis on Internet and securities law.

### ■ Legal Weblog

legalweblog.blogspot.com: Attorney Brian Peterson reports legal news of interest to lawyers in West Virginia.

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### ■ Jurist

jurist.law.pitt.edu: To call this excellent site a blog is misleading — it's more like a daily newspaper for the legal profession, providing news, commentary, event listings, court dockets, and much more. It's operated by Bernard Hibbitts, professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

### ■ KinsellaLaw

kinsellalaw.com: N. Stephan Kinsella, a patent attorney in Houston, reports on developments in patent law and comments on resources and findings of interest to patent lawyers.

### ■ LawMeme

research.yale.edu/lawmeme: Yale Law School's Information Society Project operates this blog, subtitled "Legal Bricolage for a Technological Age." It delivers news and commentary on law and technology.

### ■ Leah's Law Library Weblog

radio.weblogs.com/0109773: Leah Sandwell-Weiss, a librarian at the University of Arizona College of Law and a former judge advocate, covers law, libraries, and legal research, with a smattering of military law.

### ■ Lessig Blog

cyberlaw.stanford.edu/lessig/blog: Stanford Law School professor Lawrence Lessig discusses cyberlaw, intellectual property, the Internet, and other topics that interest him.

### ■ Openlaw

eon.law.harvard.edu/openlaw: From Harvard Law School's Berkman Center, Openlaw is an experiment in crafting legal arguments in an open forum. Lawyers and nonlawyers can add comments to drafts of legal arguments, pleadings, and briefs from actual cases.

### ■ TheCorporateCounsel.net Blog

thecorporatecounsel.net/blog/blogindex.html: Broc Romanek, who works for The Corporate Counsel.net—an educational service that provides practical guidance on legal issues involving corporate and securities regulation—tracks current developments in the field.

### ■ SCOTUSblog

goldsteinhowe.com/blog/index.cfm: From Washington, D.C.'s Goldstein & Howe, this is the only blog devoted to tracking litigation before the Supreme Court.

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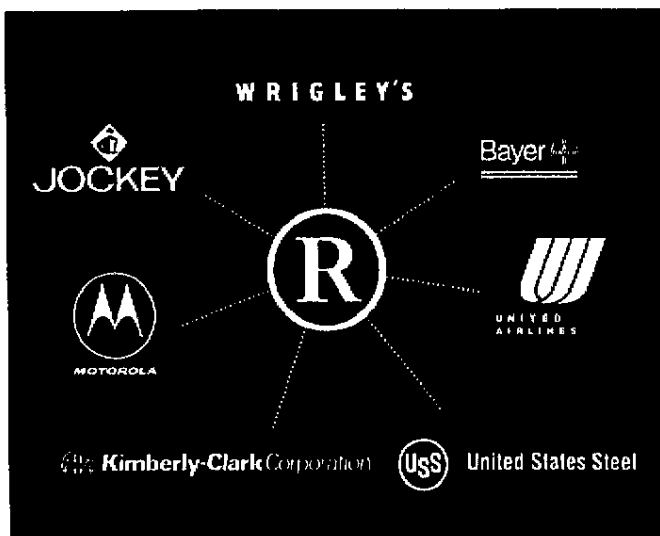
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### ■ Statutory Construction Zone

[statconblog.blogspot.com](http://statconblog.blogspot.com): This innovative blog from Washington, D.C., lawyer Gary O'Connor analyzes recently decided federal cases that involve matters of statutory construction. For each case, he sets out the statute construed, the court's conclusion, and the statutory construction tools used by the court.

### ■ TalkLeft

[talkleft.com](http://talkleft.com): An unabashedly left-leaning look at the law and politics of crime from Denver lawyer Jeralyn Merritt.

### ■ Visor

[visor.blogspot.com](http://visor.blogspot.com): Devoted to copyright, trademark, parody, fair use, and technology legal issues, this site is run by Kevin Heller, a lawyer with Manhattan's Gursky & Ederer.

### ■ Trademark Blog

[trademark.blog.us/blog](http://trademark.blog.us/blog): New York City lawyer Martin Schwimmer updates this blog several times a day with news about trademarks and domain names.

### ■ VoteLaw

[votelaw.blogspot.com](http://votelaw.blogspot.com): This informative blog is part of what may be the only Web site devoted to the topic of voting law, from Birmingham lawyer Edward Still. He covers elections, voting rights, campaign finance, and other topics.

### ■ Weatherall's Law

[weatherall.blogspot.com](http://weatherall.blogspot.com): Kim Weatherall, lecturer in law at the University of Sydney, Australia, provides commentary on current developments in intellectual property and technology law.

*Robert J. Ambrogi is a lawyer in Rockport, Massachusetts, and contributing editor to Law Technology News, a Corporate Counsel sibling publication. E-mail: [rambrogi@legaline.com](mailto:rambrogi@legaline.com).*