Amicus Humoriae
Amicus Humoriae

An Anthology of Legal Humor

Compiled by
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Thomas E. Baker
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To “the junta,” who never fail at being funny
—R.M.J.

To Thomas Athanasius, who always makes his father smile
—T.E.B.

To my mother, who taught me the value of laughter
—A.J.M.
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Foreword

Every so often, there appears in the pages of a law review an article or essay that is meant to be—and actually is—funny. Twenty-five of the best of these pieces are reprinted here. Because space limitations forced us to leave out many worthy candidates, we also have included a comprehensive bibliography. It is hoped that this approach will leave readers amused and informed.

A word should be said about our methodology. We excluded lawyer gaffes, jokes, poems, speeches, testimonials, and war stories; considered only previously-published materials, and then only if they appeared in a bar journal or law review; and gave preference to items appearing since Professor Ronald L. Brown’s Juris-Jocular: An Anthology of Modern American Legal Humor (1989).

The original places of publication appear in the Acknowledgments. In resetting the works, we have taken the liberty of correcting obvious typographical errors.

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Anthony D’Amato, Minutes of the Faculty Meeting, 1992 Brigham Young University Law Review 359–361

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