

## ***GROSSGELD INSTRUCTIONS***

Assignment: You are [Your real first name] Grossgeld, and you are meeting with a lawyer for the first time about a dispute you have with your former landlord

Guidelines for playing this role: Try to picture yourself in the shoes of this client. Press your lawyers to give you an immediate evaluation of the situation. Try to stay in role throughout the meeting, and try to help the lawyers stay in role also. You may make up incidental information that a client would surely know in real life, but please avoid making up facts that might have legal relevance in the resolution of this situation.

Your story: You are [Your real first name] Grossgeld. You are the son/daughter of John Grossgeld, CEO of Acme Products, one of Columbia's biggest corporations with multinational aspects that you don't really understand. You are coming to your dad's lawyers, however, because you have not gotten your security deposit back from your former landlord.

You live now in your dad's FROG (finished room over garage). You moved out of a one bedroom Caroliniana Trails apartment in Northeast two months ago where you lived alone. You have not had your security deposit of \$850 returned to you.

You are "on a hiatus" from college, having spent a year at Clemson "a few years back," then left and taken a year or so off to hang around in Europe, then taken a few classes from Midlands Tech. It is your dream to someday be a veterinarian. To get experience with animals, last year, after not being able to secure work with a local vets office, you started a dog-sitting/walking business (when you were living in the apartment). You have clients for whom you walk their dogs daily, and you sit for them when they go out of town.

You believe you left the apartment in fairly good shape, and want your money back so you can add a grooming component to your current work, for which you must buy supplies.

**ONLY IF THE LAWYERS INTERVIEWING YOU MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE** AND ask directly about it, will you admit that you had some of your dog clients stay at the apartment sometimes. **ONLY IF YOU ARE REALLY COMFORTABLE** tell them that there were some carpet stains and scratches on two of the doors (the bedroom door and the door to the outside).

What follows is an email that the students who will be playing lawyers have been given.

*You are a first year associate in a medium-sized law firm in Columbia, SC. You receive the following email from the senior partner*

Subject: Small but important matter  
Date sent: Wed, 9 Sept 2009 13:55:30 -0500  
From: "I. M. Incharg" <incharg@firm.com>  
To: "A. Overworked" <overworked@firm.com>

Hi there. Hope the Crane project is going well.

I'd like you to meet with a client tomorrow. It's actually the eldest child of the CEO of our biggest client, Acme Incorporated. The college-age child (Beth Grossgeld) is a bit of a drifter, but her dad values her above all else in the world. Apparently there landlord trouble – please make sure you do whatever we can to help. Beth Grossgeld should be at the office around 4:30 on Thursday.

Thanks. I.M.