A SOUTH FLORIDA LEGAL BRIEF

Scott J. Silverman

The attorneys have taken to filing their briefs
The size of the documents were beyond my belief

They arrived in my chambers one day before hearing
At a quarter past five, just as I was leaving

They weren’t too short and weren’t too sweet
They were long and extensive, but remarkably neat

Reams of paper in tabbed three-ring notebooks
Made it no easier to give them a look

My eyes glazed right over as my head hit the desk
I expected some briefs, but what I saw was grotesque

The attorneys have authored a fine legal treatise
But if one hasn’t a month, can one really read it?

They’ve taken a forest and left the land barren
A brief in this town is a true oxymoron

Scott Silverman is a judge on the Eleventh Judicial Circuit in Miami-Dade County, Florida.
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In South Florida you’d think a brief was just that
A brief should be brief and not very fat

If you want your brief read, be ever so brief
Write it short, write it neat, and give this judge some relief