Ex Ante

In Mr. Brandeis's article on the Harvard Law School, he reports on, among other things, the first-year curriculum:

Contracts. Professor Keener. Three hours a week. Langdell's Cases on Contracts.

Property. Professor Gray. Two hours a week. Gray's Cases on Property.

Torts. Mr. Schofield. Two hours a week. Ames's Cases on Torts.

Civil Procedure at Common Law. Professor Ames. One hour a week. Ames's Cases on Pleading.

Criminal Law and Procedure. Mr. Chaplin. One hour a week. [No text book.]

Notes, 3 Harv. L. Rev. 84, 87 (1889); Louis D. Brandeis, The Harvard Law School, 1 Green Bag 10, 18 (1889).

Not-So-Sorry About That

UGENE FIDELL HAS RECOMMENDED in these pages that the federal government get a little more aggressive about its litigating position in a certain class of cases - those in which it owes its opponents an apology. Specifically, he prefers an apology in print, in the Federal Register. There are reasons to be pessimistic. Consider, for example, the response of prosecutors to the Supreme Court's unanimous decision overturning the conviction of the Arthur Andersen accounting firm for obstruction of justice (a prosecution that amounted to a "death penalty" for the firm and in all likelihood played a role in the loss of roughly 28,000 jobs at Andersen): They are "disappointed" and "will carefully examine today's decision and determine whether to retry the case."

Eugene R. Fidell, Sorry, 71 Fed. Reg. 1 (2006), 8 GREEN BAG 2D 155 (2005); Tony Mauro, A Bittersweet Court Victory for Andersen, LEGAL TIMES, June 6, 2005, at 15.