

Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal

Volume 22 | Number 2

Article 1

1-1-1999

Foreword

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Recommended Citation

Chelsea M. Doerrie, *Foreword*, 22 HASTINGS COMM. & ENT. L.J. 177 (1999).

Available at: https://repository.uchastings.edu/hastings_comm_ent_law_journal/vol22/iss2/1

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Foreword

By

CHELSEA M. DOERRIE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On behalf of the *Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal (COMM/ENT)*, I am pleased to present our 2000 symposium issue, the *Twelfth Annual Computer Law Symposium: Business and Legal Challenges Facing Electronic Commerce*.

The publication of this issue would not have been possible without the tireless dedication and effort of the entire *COMM/ENT* staff, most especially the energy and perseverance of Daniel Stephens, *Senior Production Editor* of Volume 23 and the entire Senior Executive Editorial staff of Volume 23. The Symposium was a great success due to the organizational and planning efforts of Jonathan Purcell, *COMM/ENT Senior Symposium Editor*, Volume 22. The extraordinary effort and time commitment of the entire Volume 22 staff were also integral to the success of the event.

In order to ensure a true reflection of the Symposium, we have published the transcripts in the order in which they were presented, although only a portion of the day's presentations have been included. The transcripts have been edited for readability with an eye to retaining the voices of the authors. In addition, we have included an Article by Associate Professor Malla Pollack, which explores the public right to use material in the public domain upon the expiration of utility patents. Lastly, we have included two student Notes which investigate tax issues in the contexts of fund raising for cyberspace charities and international computer software transactions.

We graciously thank all of the symposium participants and authors for their time and effort. We also greatly appreciate the enthusiasm and encouragement of Albert Kaba, *Manager of Scholarly Publications*, and the entire Hastings Administration. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy reading this issue.