

CJ 560 Milestone One Guidelines and Rubric

Overview: This milestone will allow you to complete the Background portion of your final project. In Module One, you chose a controversial court case in which the judicial process created civil unrest and discord or was otherwise the subject of national media scrutiny, and that aligns with your educational and professional interests in criminal justice. In this milestone, you will discuss the facts, the legal issues, the judicial proceedings, the procedural history, and the holding(s) of the court case.

Prompt: Use the case you identified in Module One to complete this assignment. In this milestone, create a draft that addresses the Background portion of your final project.

Specifically, the following **critical elements** must be addressed:

I. **Background** of the Case

- A. **Facts:** Provide a clear, succinct, and accurate summary of the key facts of the case. For instance, on what date(s) did the crime occur? Who was involved? What weapon was used (if there was one)?
- B. **Timeline:** Develop a clear, accurate timeline of your controversial court case that summarizes the decision of the court. Specifically, the timeline of your case should include:
 1. The legal issues
 2. The judicial proceedings
 3. The procedural history
 4. The holding(s)
- C. **Verdict:** Defend, with evidence, your position on the court's verdict. In other words, did the court issue the most appropriate verdict in the case? Why or why not? Ensure that you communicate your defense clearly and effectively.
- D. **Type of Court:** Explain where (local, state, or federal court) the case was tried, specifically including whether the case was tried in civil court as well as criminal court. Why was the case tried in civil court, or why was it not?
- E. **Similarities:** Explain the similarities between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for your case.
- F. **Differences:** Explain the differences between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for your case.

Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: Your draft of the Background portion of your final project will be submitted as a presentation and must include speaker notes or a transcript. Audio and video are strongly encouraged because of the importance of communication in the criminal justice profession. Your presentation should have 5–7 slides, although this is a minimum requirement; depending on the controversial court case you select, you may need more slides to comprehensively analyze your court case. You should use current APA style guidelines for your citations and reference list, with a minimum of three sources.

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (90%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Background: Facts	Provides clear, succinct, and accurate summary of the key facts of the case	Provides a summary of the facts of the case, but summary has gaps in clarity or accuracy, is wordy, or includes unnecessary information	Does not provide a summary of the facts of the case	15
Background: Timeline	Develops clear, accurate timeline that summarizes the court’s decision, including the legal issues, the judicial proceedings, the procedural history, and the holding(s)	Develops timeline that summarizes the court’s decision, including the legal issues, the judicial proceedings, the procedural history, and the holding(s), but timeline lacks clarity, accuracy, or detail	Does not develop timeline that summarizes the court’s decision	15
Background: Verdict	Clearly and effectively defends, with evidence, position on court’s verdict	Defends, with evidence, position on court’s verdict, but with gaps in clarity, effectiveness, or logic	Does not defend, with evidence, position on court’s verdict	15
Background: Type of Court	Explains where (local, state, or federal court) the case was tried, specifically addressing whether or not the case was tried in civil court as well as criminal court	Explains where (local, state, or federal court) the case was tried, specifically addressing whether or not the case was tried in civil court as well as criminal court, but explanation is cursory or inaccurate	Does not explain where (local, state, or federal court) the case was tried	15
Background: Similarities	Explains the similarities between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case	Explains the similarities between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case, but with gaps in detail	Does not explain the similarities between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case	15
Background: Differences	Explains the differences between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case	Explains the differences between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case, but with gaps in detail	Does not explain the differences between the procedures in the criminal trial that occurred and the procedures in a civil trial (whether actual or potential) for case	15

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Articulation of Response	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	10
Total				100%