



# 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-ringed 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

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*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

