**Computer Law - First Assignment**

**Berkeley School of Law, Fall 2019, 276.4 sec. 001**

*Prof. Dr. Lothar Determann*

Before our first class on August 28, 2019 (Wednesday morning from 8 to 9:50 AM in Room 130), please address:

**Assignments for Class #1.**

**Your friend developed a computer program - how to commercialize it?**

Before class, please read and prepare answers for the following first hypothetical case: Your friend has developed a new computer program, which can pull data from the Internet and other sources, and compile and organize such data in an intuitive way for use on mobile devices. For example, you can type in “Green Day “ and the program creates a brief summary biography and then downloads songs, lyrics, movie files from various sources and links them to the summary biography. Or, if you type in “Mono Lake”, the program pulls photos, video and information on Mono Lake, including the news regarding arsenic-incorporating bacteria from outer space.



Your friend asks you: Havent you just gotten licensed to practice law? How should I go about commercializing this product? Any legal stuff I should be worried about? How can I make the law work in my favor?

*Assignment:* Please prepare a bullet point outline of 5-10 legal considerations to discuss with your friend. Remind yourself about the different types of intellectual property laws regimes that exist and prepare a brief outline for each regime and how they are relevant for your friend’s business plan.

Please also prepare answers to the following questions for each of the IP regimes (Copyrights, Patents, Trade Secrets, Trademarks) and add a column where you answer the same questions for Contracts:

- What is protected? (*e.g.*, works of authorship under copyright law, namely, regarding software, 102(a), ...)

- What is not protected? (*e.g.*, see 102(b) Copyright Act)

- Against what is the IP protected? (*e.g.*, copying, under Copyright Act, and ...?)

- What conditions apply (*e.g.*, registration? filings?)

- How long is protection available (*i.e.*, term of intellectual property rights - “IPR”).

- What remedies are available?