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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The Tenth Circuit is presently experiencing an evolution. As the area in which it sits undergoes rapid economic and population expansion, the Circuit's caseload is increasing in size and sophistication. The diverse nature of the cases appealed to the Circuit has recently ranged from such matters as an alleged violation of a Muslim prisoner's civil rights because of the supposed use of pig fat in prison soap, to a case that involved a city's regulation of cable television and required consideration of complex and subtle anti-trust and First Amendment issues. Keeping current with the opinions of the court is a formidable task for members of both the bench and the bar. Nevertheless, the effort is vital to the consistent and efficient administration of justice.

The value of staying abreast of the latest court opinions is painfully illustrated by the experience of one defense counsel appearing before the Tenth Circuit. He was vigorously arguing a position that had been approved in several other circuits when he was asked by a member of the court if he was familiar with a recent Tenth Circuit opinion. The attorney stopped short and responded: "No, Your Honor, but if it says what I'm afraid it says, I'm in trouble." It did, and he was.

The Denver Law Journal's Annual Tenth Circuit Survey aids both practitioners and courts in their efforts to discover recently decided cases and apply them to the issues at hand. The capsule case summaries and critiques help to ensure that new and relevant Tenth Circuit decisions will not be overlooked in the flood of opinions emanating from the court. The Journal is to be commended for this substantial contribution to the legal community.

STEPHANIE K. SEYMOUR

October 23, 1981

