Week 2

**Constitutional Issues**

**TV show cops and constitutional issues behind reality-based police television programs.**

The article “"Just the Facts Ma'am": The Supreme Court Says "No" to Media Ride-Alongs’’ highlights the legal political and Ethical dimension in Business. this case presents a constitutional issue. In this case, the Supreme Court of the U.S rules that it is illegal for members of the press to accompany law officers carrying out raids on criminals. This is despite the fact that the duty of the press was to inform the public and their audience. The message that comes out clearly is that legal political and ethical dimensions have to be respected while carrying out operations or professional activities. The legal aspect of this case is that the law protects the rights of all individuals’ privacy and as such, the press despite having its freedom should respect the privacy of the victims. From the ethical point, the victim deserves to be protected from publicity of the media.

**Janet Jackson and Justin NFL half-time show**

The Janet Jackson and Justin NFL half-time show also shows the legal political and ethical dimensions in business. In this show, Janet’s breasts in a breast shield were exposed to the audience for several seconds raising some controversies. Critics argue that this was done on purpose so as to enhance the publicity of the show. From the case, authorities increased the regulation on broadcasting while also putting in place strict penalties for indecency in broadcasting. The message that comes from this incident is that law regulates on what should be broadcasted. From the ethical perspective, businesses are reminded to carry out their operation in a manner that does not promote indecency and expose societal culture in a bad way.

**Administrative Agency Issue**

**Drug cartel allegedly aided by top Mexican police commander, now in US custody.** administrative agencies are law making bodies that have been given some limited power to make laws. These bodies specialize in issues that require expert knowledge. An example of such a body is the U.S Drug Enforcement Department. This body is tasked with tackling drug related issues and bringing to justice the individuals or groups involved in drug and drug related cases. In the article “Drug cartel allegedly aided by top Mexican police commander, now in US custody’’ the work of the U.S Drug Enforcement Department in ensuring that drug related criminals are effectively dealt with. In this case, the top commander of a Mexican drug cartel aided by top police officers is arrested by U.S officials. The message that comes out from this case is that administrative agencies help in ensuring that business is regulated and only legal business is allowed. Also, it is clear that the administrative agencies help in ensuring ethical businesses practices in the society.

**House Approves Bill to Overturn FCC Privacy Rule.**

In this article entitled “House Approves Bill to Overturn FCC Privacy Rule’’ Lawmakers voted to overturn Obama’s rule on consumer privacy that had restricted telecommunication Companies to seek the permission of customers before marketing their apps and web browsing history to third parties. In this article, it is the responsibility of the Federal Communication agency to ensure that this rule is followed thus demonstrating the importance of administrative agencies in regulating business. However, it be argued that sometimes, the administrative agencies can act unethically when implementing the laws. For example, having overturned Obama’s privacy laws, the privacy of the customers will be compromised when the Federal Communication Commission implements the new rules.

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**Week 3**

**Legal Political and Ethical Dimensions of Business**

 The operations of businesses are governed by the law. at all times, businesses are supposed to operate with strict adherence to law. failure to comply with the existing laws can cause the business to face legal suits. It is for this reason that the management of a business need to ensure that the business operates in accordance with the rules or law in place. Torts, product liability and environmental issues are important consideration that the business should adhere when operating. This paper discusses some of these issues as represented in fox media.

**Torts:**

Case: Two employees are suing Microsoft, alleging their jobs gave them PTSD

Tort is referred to as a civil wrong which causes another person to suffers and in which the person causing the wrong is slapped with legal liability for causing the tort. There are several types of tort which include negligence, injury, and breach of duty. A business entity, just like a private person is legally liable for tort caused. As such, business should ensure that they do not cause the wrong that harms other people or their employees.

Negligence as a form of tort relates to the failure of an entity or individual to act in an appropriate manner or in an ethical way in accordance with the existing circumstances. In tort, negligence entails the harm that is caused from carelessness of the plaintiff to the defendant.

In an article on Fox News titled “Two employees are suing Microsoft, alleging their jobs gave them PTSD’’ by Michael Harthorne, Microsoft is sued by two of its employees. The two employees are Henry Soto and Greg Blauert. The two allege that Microsoft made them to look at pornographic and pictures that are meant to entertain the twisted and the mentally sick persons. In this case, Microsoft is sued for negligence. The two people claim to have become mentally disturbed upon watching the videos. However, Microsoft in its defense states that watching the videos was within the work of these employees in ensuring that the content posted on the internet is safe.

This is one case that shows that a business is legally liable for tort caused. Despite the fact that the employees belong to Microsoft, it is the responsibility of this Company to ensure that the safety of its employees is provided. Failure to guarantee this safety is what results in the company being sued. I find it very legal for these employees to sue Microsoft because it is within the legal requirement that requires business to take a measured approach in their actions so as not to harm others.

**Product Liability:**

Case: Jury awards more than $70M to woman in Johnson & Johnson baby powder lawsuit

Product liability refers to the situation where the manufacturer, seller or distributor of a product is held liable for harm caused to an individual that uses the product in question. As such, the manufacturer, seller or distributor is required to ensure that the product being presented in the market is free of defects are suit for consumption. The product liability law is important in ensuring that consumers are protected. It is said that thousands of people are affected by defective products on a yearly basis hence the need to ensure the protection of the consumers.

The issue of product liability and how the business can be held liable for defective products is highlighted in an article on Fox News titled “Jury awards more than $70M to woman in Johnson & Johnson baby powder lawsuit’’. In this article, a woman in California is awarded $70M by a court upon successful suing Johnsons and Johnsons for a defective baby powder containing talcum. The women by the name Deborah Giannecchini was able to convince the jury that the powder had caused her cancer.

This case shows that business has the responsibility to ensure that their products are free of defects. It is the customers of the products that suffer in case of defect in products. Therefore, product liability helps in ensuring that business take measures to ensure that their products are safe and suitable for use. As such, it was just for the court to award the woman the money for the harm the products had caused her.

**Environmental Law Issues**

Case: Freedom Industries pleads guilty to pollution charges in West Virginia chemical spill case

It is the responsible of an individual or entity to ensure that the environment is protected and preserved. Failure by a business entity in ensuring that the environment is preserved could result in legal suit being brought against such a business. currently, there is increased calls for businesses to ensure that the environment is protected from pollution. Hence, it is mandatory for the top management of a business to protect the environment in complying with the rules and in avoiding legal suits.

In an article in Fox News titled “Freedom Industries pleads guilty to pollution charges in West Virginia chemical spill case’’ Freedom industries is fined close to $900,000 for contaminating the West Virginia river. A spillage of a coal-cleaning agent from the company had entered the river and in the process caused tap water services to be cut to many households. It is fare for a business to be legally liable for any damage caused to the environment. Businesses are responsible for a lot of environmental damages in the society. Therefore, the environmental protection laws are important in ensuring that businesses take measures aimed at protecting the environment.

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**Week 4**

**The Law of Contracts and Sales**

“A contract is generally defined as a legally enforceable exchange of promises or an exchange of a promise for an act that assures the parties to the agreement that their promises will be enforceable. Contract law brings predictability to the exchange.” (Kubasek,) “In recent news articles the Supreme Court decision allows resale of used ink cartridges despite patent holder restriction. The articles are based on a patent holder that restricts the reuse or resale of its printer ink cartridges can’t invoke patent law against a remanufacturing company that violates the restriction, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday. The court ruled that Lexmark International’s patent rights are exhausted with its first sale of the cartridges, despite restrictions it tried to impose.” Weiss, D. C. (2017, May 30).

‘The court ruled in Lexmark’s infringement suit against Impression Products for refurbishing and reselling Lexmark cartridges. Lexmark tried to prevent third parties from acquiring, refurbishing and reselling its used cartridges by creating a “return program.” Customers who bought cartridges and agreed to return them got 20 percent off their cost. To prevent customers from reselling the cartridges to others, Lexmark installed a microchip that prevents reuse.” Weiss, D. C. (2017, May 30).

“Companies such as Impression Products had developed methods to counteract the microchip, enabling it to refurbish Lexmark cartridges and undercut the Lexmark new-sale price. Lexmark’s contracts with customers may have been enforceable under contract law, but the company did not retain patent rights after sale of the cartridges. Its conclude that a patentee’s decision to sell a product exhausts all of its patent rights in that item, regardless of any restrictions the patentee purports to impose or the location of the sale” Weiss, D. C. (2017, May 30).

**Law of Property: Real and Personal**

The right of property is that sole and despotic dominion which one man claims and exercises over the external things of the world, in total exclusion of the right of any other individual in the universe. It consists in the free use, enjoyment, and disposal of all a person’s acquisitions, without any control or diminution save only by the laws of the land.” A more concise definition, but perhaps too broad, comes from the Restatement of the Law of Property, which defines property as the “legal relationship between persons with respect to a thing. (real-estate.law.)Property can be classified in various ways, including tangible versus intangible, private versus public, and personal versus real. Tangible property is that which physically exists, like a building, a popsicle stand, a hair dryer, or a steamroller. Intangible property is something without physical reality that entitles the owner to certain benefits; stocks, bonds, and intellectual property would be common examples. Public property is that which is owned by any branch of government; private property is that which is owned by anyone else, including a corporation. (real-estate.law.)

Perhaps the most important distinction is between real and personal property. Essentially, real property is immovable; personal property is movable. At common law, personal property has been referred to as “chattels.” When chattels become affixed to real property in a certain manner, they are called fixtures and are treated as real property. For example, “If you have oil in your backyard, by all means you have the right to dig and acquire that oil. On the other hand, if your neighbor has that oil, you cannot dig through your yard downward, and then sideways towards the neighbors. With solar heating and cooler units, airspace becomes more demanding because of the sun needed to shine down on the property in order for the heating/cooling to take place.”(real-estate.law)

“Personal property deals primarily with movable things, even if they weigh a ton, as long as they are not attached to the land. You might ask yourself, what’s the purpose behind these two classifications? Well, the classifications enable the law to draw a line between the two”. “if you are purchasing a house with a swing and slide set in the backyard, if the swing set is not bolted, the seller of the land has all rights to take it with him or her, unless it was highlighted within the contract of sale. If the swing set was bolted, the only way the seller could take that with him or her is if it has been stated on the contract, if not, then the swing set is staying on that land since it is permanently attached.” (real-estate.law.)

**Intellectual Property**

“A form of intellectual property that is related to the patent is the trade secret. A trade secret is information related to the proprietary development of a commercial product that is not generally known to the public. A trade secret is inherently protected even without any filing with the government. There is no such thing as filing a trade secret, as trade secrets would be protected through maintenance of confidentiality. Unlike patents, trade secrets do not protect its owner against reverse engineering or independent discovery. An example Coca-Cola, a large soft drink manufacturer, adds a secret ingredient to all of its soft drinks that allows its drinkers to feel really good after drinking Coca-Cola products. One day, Barbara, a tourist who is touring the Coca-Cola manufacturing plant and who accidentally stumbles into the wrong room, accidentally discovers that the secret ingredient in Coma-Cola is a small dose of a tranquilizer. Even if the production of Coca-Cola is not a patented process, Barbara may not make this information public and she may not use this information to produce her own soft drinks that are copies of Coca-Cola”(Juris national paralegal).

“There are three basic areas of intellectual property that will be dealt with in this course: copyrights, trademarks, and patents. Copyrights provide protection for works that were authored by the copyright holder. Those works can be in any form and can be delivered through any medium. Thus, copyright protection can protect written essays or books, songs, paintings and other works of art, movies, computer software, etc. Copyright protection for any original work is automatic and it arises immediately upon completion of a work. Still, the protection afforded can be greatly enhanced by registering the copyright with the Copyright Office. An example is J.K. Rowling, author of the popular “Harry Potter” book series, holds a copyright on the book series. This allows her to prevent anybody from reproducing or re-selling any Harry Potter books without her permission (or, of course, the permission of the publishing company to whom Ms. Rowling has sold the publishing rights). In addition, if another author named Play Gerizer publishes “his own” book called “Harry Potter and the Overcooked Spaghetti” that shares many of the same characters and plotlines of the original Harry Potter series, Rowling would have a cause of action against Gerizer. Even if Gerizer’s book slightly changes the names and places in the book, Gerizer may still have violated Rowling’s copyright if he stole the expression of her ideas. Trademarks are words or symbols that are used by a manufacturer or seller of an item that serve to identify and distinguish the goods of that proprietor from those of all others. (Juris national paralegal)

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**Week 5**

**Employment Law Issues**

Generally, there are quite a number of both federal and state laws, rules, regulations, and principles that govern the employer-employee relationship. Many laws such as wages, safety and privacy are applicable to all employees. Therefore, employers are required to abide by the laws and keep accurate records. The employment and labor law details some of the requirements that are expected from both the employer and the employees. These requirements have led to some issues related to employment law in the business. The issues are but not limited to: Employment discrimination and harassment; wages and other benefits; workplace safety; workplace privacy; family and medical leave; and hiring, retention, firing and references issues.

Discrimination and harassment in a business organization can arise in many different forms including gender based discrimination, racial discrimination, sexual harassment, and cultural discrimination (Tess-Mattner, 2004). It occurs when a member of a protected class such as women and minorities is handled differently than his or her peers. Some misconduct such as use of racial slurs or denial of advancement opportunities can be treated as discriminatory activities. This has become a major issue especially in the United States which is populated with immigrants. For instance in April this year, 11 current and former employees have sued FOX News, citing intolerable racial bias. According to the news articles, eleven current and former Fox News employees filed a class-action lawsuit in New York against the network, accusing it for “abhorrent, intolerable, unlawful and hostile racial discrimination” (Ember, 2017). According to the employees, there have been a lot of racial discrimination in the company but the network executives have taken no action allowing the inappropriate behavior to continue. In addition, Bill O’Reilly one of the Fox New executives has been involved in various cases over sexual harassment and other misconduct behavior. Over the years, about $13 million has been paid out to address and settle complaints from women about Mr. O’Reilly’s behavior (Ember, 2017). This indicates how critical the issue is. Many business organizations have lost lot of finances settling such lawsuits. Employers are subjected to many more state laws than federal laws. In the current society, discrimination laws no longer protect only obvious racial or gender differences. They go beyond that to include less familiar classification such as age, economic status, and ethnicity.

Safety requirements as another issue in the employment law, demands that an employer must provide a safe work environment, supply o require workers to provide safety equipment, and ensure that safety policies are followed and all equipment properly used (Tess-Mattner, 2004). The requirements are provided under Occupational Safety and health Administration (OSHA) which has issues general safety standards as well as specific safety requirements for particular industries and activities. The agency also requires that material safety data sheet on all toxic or caustic substances are made available in the workplace and accessible to employees. This is a big issue as most business organizations fail to adhere to the regulations and standards ending up injuring their employees.

The increased use of modern technological development and innovations in the work place gives rise to employee privacy concerns: telephone, security cameras, e-mail, and internet monitoring; and searches of desks, lockers, duffle bags, briefcases, and handbags. Some aspects such as intercepting wire or electronic communications are subject to federal and state laws which limit the degree of monitoring allowed (Tess-Mattner, 2004). An example of such issue is that of Apple against FBI. In the dispute, the Justice department filed court paper requesting Apple to load software on to the phone of a suspected criminal who had been killed. The software was to bypass a self-destruct feature that erases all data. However, Apple claimed that the move would “threaten the security of our customers.” This brings in the privacy issues in business operation. The company was ready to expose their product at the expense of their customers.

Hiring, retention, firing, and references are other most critical issue in relation to employment law. Naturally, business entities want to hire capable, reliable and most productive workers who can work for reasonable compensation. However, employers must not be scrupulous in not appearing to discriminate while reaching a hiring or firing decision. According to the reports, Courts and administrative agencies like the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and its state equivalents handle thousands of discrimination and harassment claims each year (Silverstein & Hohler, 2010). Wage, hour, and other benefits are an employment issue related to payment and settling other employees’ compensation benefits. Employers may make a variety of wage-related errors such as following federal minimum wage standards in states which mandate a higher minimum wage hence raising differences.

Employers need to follow state minimum wages if the states have such policies in place. Exempting any salaried worker from overtime and minimum wage requirement is another wage related issue. According to the labor Act, for an employee to exempted, the job duties must fall within one of the five categories: executive, professional, outsides sales’ administrative, and computer technologies. Exempting employees who do not fall in one of these categories raises complaints against the company. Finally, employee benefits such as health insurance, and other compensations might also affect the company. The federal law requires a company to insure their employees.

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**Week 6**

**White-Collar Crime and the Business Community**

“What makes white-collar crime so tempting is that a person who steals from a business can rationalize that his or her theft will hardly put a dent in the CEO's handsome salary. Although white collar criminals might like to think that they're cheating only highly-compensated executives, these crimes can have a devastating ripple effect. When a company suffers from fraud from any source, it must make up for it by raising costs, which ultimately means higher prices for consumers. It can also mean less pay for employees and even cutting jobs. The effect can continue to ripple when it comes to those employees or investors who now find themselves unable to pay off loans, and credit becomes harder to obtain. When stock fraud or insider trading scandals break out, like they did in the 1980s in the United States, it can cause investors to lose faith in the stock market.” (MCGRATH, J.)

“Scandals like Enron in 2001, Shareholders lost $74 billion, thousands of employees and investors lost their retirement accounts, and many employees lost their jobs. the Master-mind behind this operation are CEO Jeff Skilling and former CEO Ken Lay. Enron CEOs kept huge debts off balance sheets. Off-balance sheet financing means a company does not include a liability on its balance sheet. It is an accounting term and impacts a company’s level of debt and liability. they were Turned in by internal whistleblower Sherron Watkins; high stock prices fueled external suspicions. The Penalties: Lay died before serving time; Skilling got 24 years in prison. The company filed for bankruptcy. Arthur Andersen was found guilty of fudging Enron's accounts.” (MCGRATH, J.)

**Antitrust Laws:**

Congress passed the first antitrust law, the Sherman Act, in 1890 as a "comprehensive charter of economic liberty aimed at preserving free and unfettered competition as the rule of trade." In 1914, Congress passed two additional antitrust laws: the Federal Trade Commission Act, which created the FTC, and the Clayton Act. With some revisions, these are the three core federal antitrust laws still in effect today.The antitrust laws proscribe unlawful mergers and business practices in general terms, leaving courts to decide which ones are illegal based on the facts of each case. Courts have applied the antitrust laws to changing markets, from a time of horse and buggies to the present digital age. Yet for over 100 years, the antitrust laws have had the same basic objective: to protect the process of competition for the benefit of consumers, making sure there are strong incentives for businesses to operate efficiently, keep prices down, and keep quality up. The Sherman Act outlaws "every contract, combination, or conspiracy in restraint of trade," and any "monopolization, attempted monopolization, or conspiracy or combination to monopolize."(The Antitrust Laws)

“A article that effects A three-judge panel ruled Wednesday that NCAA compensation rules for college athletes violate antitrust law, Reuters reported. “The NCAA is not above the antitrust laws, and courts cannot and must not shy away from requiring the NCAA to play by the Sherman Act’s rules,” the three-person panel wrote in what is known as the O’Bannon case. The case, brought by athletes wanting some of the billions of dollars universities earn from football and basketball programs, came as colleges are under increasing pressure to provide athletes with better benefits. The panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals also threw out a federal judge’s previous proposal that NCAA members should pay athletes $5,000 per year in deferred compensation, stating that compensation for the cost of attendance was sufficient. The majority of collegiate athletes do not go on to play professional sports, and critics argue the NCAA scholarship policy is unfair to students who risk injury and devote many hours to practice, travel and competing, Reuters reported NCAA President Mark Emmert said in a statement that the association has allowed schools to provide up to the full cost of attendance since Aug. 1, and does not think that should be mandated by the courts.”(Fox News, Press,2015)

**Laws of Debtor-Creditor Relations and Consumer Protection;**

Debtor-creditor law applies to all non-bankruptcy aspects of the relationship between creditors and debtors. One of the main goals of debtor-creditor lawyers is to keep their clients out of bankruptcy court. Issues include, but are not limited to, the proper procedures for extending credit; consumers' rights with respect to debt collection; and the different forms of credit satisfaction, such as liens and debt priority. An attorney who practices debtor-creditor law may specialize in small business and/or consumer issues, helping clients manage debt in order to remain solvent. Some consumer debt issues can be handled in small claims court, such as minor billing disputes. But for larger or more complex disputes with a creditor, perhaps the repossession of a car despite having made your payments, it often pays to hire an attorney. In many cases, an attorney will collect payment only if you win your case. With respect to business, an attorney practicing this type of law may help businesses determine how to extend credit, collect debts, or better understand the laws and regulations that protect both consumers and businesses -including the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. (Thomson Reuters)

Consumer rights and consumer protection law provides a way for individuals to fight back against abusive business practices. These laws are designed to hold sellers of goods and services accountable when they seek to profit by taking advantage of a consumer’s lack of information or bargaining power. Some conduct addressed by consumer rights laws is simply unfair, while other conduct can be described as outright fraud. Consumer rights laws exist at the federal and state level. They are enforced by government agencies, offices of attorneys general, and through individual and class action lawsuits filed by victims. The most common kinds of abusive business practices occur when consumers are in particularly vulnerable circumstances. For example, when people fall behind on their bills, debt collectors are in a position to make life even more difficult by calling in the early morning or late-night hours, making contact at a person’s place of business, and speaking to friends and family. Consumer rights laws prohibit this sort of activity. In fact, under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), such harassment can result in a statutory damage award of $1,000 for the victim, plus the attorney fees incurred in bringing the suit. (Thomson Reuters)

Predatory lending also forms the basis for a large number of consumer protection lawsuits. These schemes cover a broad range of conduct, such as charging exorbitant interest rates on credit cards and other loans, hiding fees and penalties in the fine print of agreements seldom read by customers, and applying payments to low-interest portions of a loan balance first. Consumer rights laws also protect the public from false or misleading advertising. For example, automobile dealers have been known to advertise a vehicle at a reduced price in order to draw shoppers to the dealership. Once they arrive, however, that vehicle or sales price is no longer available. The dealer will then pressure shoppers into purchasing a vehicle on less favorable terms. In addition to these “bait and switch” advertising tactics, consumer rights laws address things like warranty misrepresentation, defective products, forced arbitration clauses, identity theft, and other types of harassment and fraud. (HG.org Legal Resources)

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**Week 7**

**Dispute Issues**

Business disputes are an inevitable part of managing a business, and every business owner will eventually experience a dispute or conflict of some sort involving their operations. The issues seem to be irritating, overwhelming, and financially draining (Silverstein & Hohler, 2010). In some cases, it takes a long time to have the issues resolved hence affecting the productivity of the business organization as well as its profitability. Just like employment law issues, dispute issues in a business can occur in many ways. Among the issues include: disagreement between business over the terms and conditions of a contract; patent and copyrights; and billing issues.

Any business entity working with suppliers, purchasers, contractor, or any other business partner s runs the risk of disputes arising from contract disagreements. The disputes may arise because one party may feel the other party did not fulfill or act in accordance with the contract requirement. Similarly, the party may not receive the products or service to which it believes it is entitled, or the other party may feel it was not paid the required amount for the product or service delivered (Reisman, 2015). Parties to the contracts may find themselves disagreeing on the specifics or requirements of the contract arrangement, or the period it was supposed to last. In all of these circumstances, breach of contract claims and related arguments may arise. The current dispute between Fox Networks Group and Charter is an example of contract disagreement. According to the news article, Fox gave warning to Charter customers on April 7, 2017 that if a deal was not reached; they would lose access to programming from FX Network, National Geographic Channels, Fox Sports and several regional sports networks. The sources reveal that Fox’s original carriage deal with Charter expired on March 31, 2017 (Farrell, 2017). This is a business dispute related to contractual terms and condition on the period when it was supposed to last.

A business dispute can also arise with customers. When consumers are unhappy or dissatisfied with an experience or service they were offered, there would be differences between the producer or manufacturer and the clients. Some customers may feel that the product or service purchased is not up to the standard they expected. In addition, most producers and manufacturers offer certain implied warranties on products when they are sold to individuals; when these warranties are breached, and harm is caused, claims can arise. For instance, if the company refuses to settle a claim over a defective product sold to a consumer, that particular client can file a lawsuit against the producer. The same case applies to business partners. If the supplier or contractor fails to supply or accomplish the duties and responsibilities as agreed, a dispute will arise. Firms do provide specifications for the materials ordered of which suppliers or contractors must meet. Failure to meet the specification, the quality of the product may be compromised leading further disputes.

Billing issues elates to payment terms including discounts, period of payment, and the interest to be paid if any. When selling products or offering a service to customers at a credit, business to have terms on how the customer should pay off such the time or grace period allowed for the person to pay and the interest rates one will incur failure to settle the debt after a specified period of time. In some cases, business allow discounts on bulk purchases or some items only if the person settles payment within a stipulated time like 30 days. If such terms are overridden by one part, then dispute is more likely to be experienced. Penalty for default payment can be a source of conflicts in business operations. Taking the case of Fox Network group and Charted, the dispute has some connection to the billing issue. It is said that the dispute continues to center on pricing. Charter claims that Fox was demanding double the rate it had previously charged for the channels (Dolmetsch, 2016). Fox News networks claim that the cable company, Charted tried to use its acquisition of Time Warner Cable Inc. to impose lower programming rates. According to the lawsuit filed in New York state court, Charter Company tried to apply the terms of Time Warner Cable’s agreement with Fox News to set rates, instead of its own deal that was negotiated later (Dolmetsch, 2016). The case relates to both contract terms and billing issues. Charter, seems to breach the previous contract agreement it entered with Fox networks. Similarly, the subscription charges are another issue into consideration too.

Copyright or patent rights are legal right created by the national law which grants the creator of an original work exclusive right for its use and distribution. However, the rights protect only the original expression of ideas, and not the underlying ideas themselves (Reisman, 2015). This grants other individuals or firms to indirectly use other person’s idea to their benefit. Whenever one company feels that its copyrights have been violated it can file a lawsuit against the other firm hence raising a dispute. Many disputes and conflict between competing companies have been experienced regarding the intellectual properties and trademarks. One of the longstanding organizational disputes relating to patent rights is that of Samsung versus Apple Inc. Nearly six years age, Apple Inc. sued Samsung for copying the design of the iPhone which was originally produced by Apple. The issue is yet to be resolved as each company claim to have originally designed its Smartphone. It is therefore clear that protection idea or any other creative work can actually lead to a dispute.

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