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Introduction to the First Annual Survey of the Ninth and Tenth Circuits

The Brigham Young University Law Review is proud to present this inaugural survey of the United States Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Tenth Circuits. Representing nearly a quarter of the United States population, and covering more than half of its land mass, the two western-most circuits of the U.S. Courts of Appeals confront a wide array of legal controversies that provide an excellent platform to analyze and discuss developments in the law. Located at the “Crossroads of the West,” students at the J. Reuben Clark Law School are in a unique position to consider these changes as they affect the law in the western United States and to explore their broader implications on the national level.

The survey includes twenty student-authored case notes addressing a variety of legal topics including the Establishment Clause, civil procedure, securities regulations, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, rights-of-way on public lands, pro se competency standards, immigration law, national security, the state secrets doctrine, antitrust, copyright, employment, and the First, Second, Fourth, Sixth, and Eighth Amendments, among many others. Each note includes a summary of the facts and legal questions at issue and provides analytical commentary to inform legal discussion and facilitate further research. We hope the survey provides a ready resource to those eager to explore the significant legal changes in the western circuits.