Questions To Ask When Finalizing the Paper

As you finalize the paper, ask the following questions:

- 1. Have I answer the question the paper posed?
- 2. Does the summary of the paper's conclusion in the introduction clear, concise, and complete?
- 3. Does the paper of a natural linear organization and a compelling narrative?
- 4. Do I have good introductory and concluding paragraphs for each section and subsection?
- 5. Is everything I say in the paper factually and legally correct?
- 6. Have I included everything in the paper that the reader should know?
- 7. Have I answered all of the questions the reader is likely to ask when reading the paper (and placed the answer in the text where the reader would expect to find it)?
- 8. Are my treatments of cases, guidelines, theories and the like both complete and clearly explained?
- 9. Have I used the active voice and limited the use of the passive voice except when absolutely necessary?
- 10. Are my word choices appropriate, accurately convey what I mean to say, and suitable for a formal legal writing?
- 11. Is the paper grammatically correct (including punctuation)?
- 12. Do authorities stand for the propositions for which they are cited, are the citations in proper Blue Book form, and have I used the appropriate introductory signals (see BB Rule 1.2)?