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Christopher S Shaw* (cshaw@colum.edu), Science and Mathematics Department, 600 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60640. *Understanding Legal Terminology through Symbolic Logic*. Preliminary report.

The language employed in legal proceedings may often be filled with complex rhetorical devices that are rarely used in colloquial speech and writing; as a result, it is not uncommon for juries composed of people with a variety of educational backgrounds to make mistakes in interpreting the language of the cases before them. In this work, we examine some examples of complex legal language that are commonly used in the course of legal proceedings, and discuss how basic symbolic propositional and predicate logic may provide a framework for simplifying this language. As part of this discussion, we present some preliminary data collected from student surveys. (Received September 25, 2017)