

Dear Friends of Students:

Every year at about this time, in our schools, in the market place, and in the cards we receive, there seems to be confusion about the name of the holiday that occurs on December 25th.

All federal holidays (and there are 10 of them) are created by federal law under the United States Code, 5 U.S.C. Section 6103. Each of the ten federal holidays is listed and named in this statute.

The official federal holiday that occurs on December 25th is "Christmas Day."

It is the only federal holiday in December. Therefore, all of us in America should not hesitate to wish everyone "Merry Christmas." By doing so, we are merely using the official and correct name of the federal holiday, as provided by federal law. One is operating on a sound legal basis when

proclaiming "Merry Christmas" in our greetings and cards (and asking schools and companies to call the holiday by its correct federal name). Let's all put "Christmas" back into Christmas.

What about "Happy Holidays"? We also have a federal holiday named "Labor Day," but we don't go around wishing everyone "Happy Holidays" leading up to the first Monday of September. Why should Christmas be any different?

We should all call the holiday by its official legal name as stated in federal law: "Christmas." Few people know this. Pass it on. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Kelly Coghlan [L]
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