



## North Carolina Law Life

### Between You and I, is Standard Usage and Grammar Necessary in Business?

By: Donna Ray Berkelhammer. Monday, June 25th, 2012

The **Wall Street Journal** ran a **column** last week wondering whether business image is diminished by employees who use informal (or improper) grammar and style in business communications. A recent **survey** finds more than half of HR managers find older workers to have stronger writing, grammar, and spelling skills in English, and many companies are implementing basic skills training programs for younger workers.



Grammar police (Photo credit: the\_munificent\_sasquatch)

When your employees send press releases, letters or emails rife with grammatical mistakes, spelling mistakes, improper usage or informal language, does this make your company look bad?

Does sloppy writing indicate sloppy thinking?

Are grammar and usage still a sign of intelligence, or does sincerity trump all?

What are your grammar pet peeves?

For examples of common mistakes, click [here](#).

(And or anyone who caught it, the grammatical mistake in the headline was intentional)

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