

# Where's My Free Legal Advice?

Gerry J. Elman  
World Technology Summit  
Time & Life Building, New York City  
July 16, 2009

# Elman Technology Law welcomes George Shikhashvili of Tbilisi, Georgia to the World Technology Summit

- We helped George obtain U.S. Patent 6,871,420, issued on March 29, 2005
- for a WATER SHOE
- View it at <http://elman.com/> via Free Patents Online.



# Where's My Jetpack?



# TANSTAAFL



# TANSTAAFL

- **TANSTAAFL** is an acronym for the adage "**There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch**" originating in the 1940s and later popularized by [science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein](#) in his 1966 novel [The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress](#), which discusses the problems caused by not considering the eventual outcome of an unbalanced economy.
  - Source: Wikipedia, TANSTAAFL



Elman Technology Law, P.C.

STRATEGIC LAWYERING. CULTIVATING INNOVATION.®

© ETL 2009

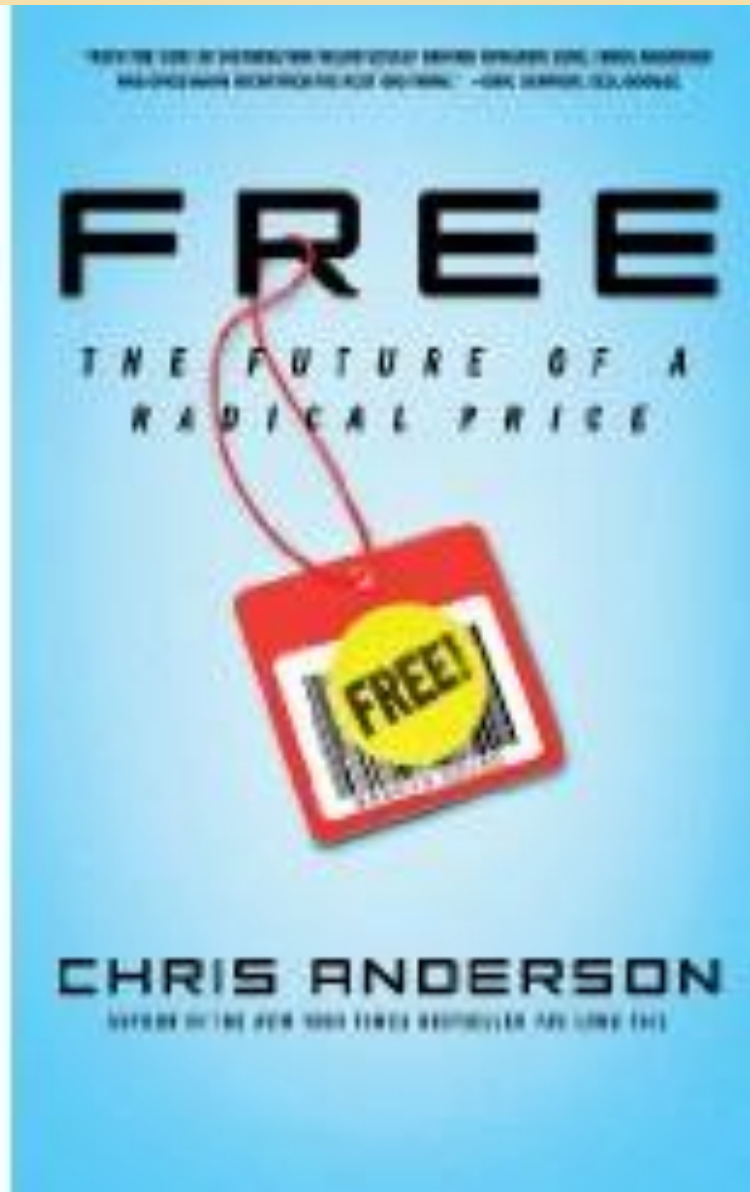
# TANSTAAFL

- Wikipedia says
- The "free lunch" referred to in the acronym relates back to the once-common tradition of saloons in the United States providing a "free" lunch to patrons who had purchased at least one drink.



# ***FREE!***

- **Thursday, August 07, 2008**
- **A million free covers from LibraryThing**
- “A few days ago, just before hitting thirty million books, we hit one million user-uploaded covers. **So, we've decided to give them away—to libraries, to bookstores, to everyone.**”
  - Source: [www.librarything.com](http://www.librarything.com)



Elman Technology Law, P.C.

STRATEGIC LAWYERING. CULTIVATING INNOVATION.®

© ETL 2009

# twtanin

- That Was Then
- And
- Now
- Is
- Now



# Free Legal Advice from a Philadelphia Lawyer?





# National Constitution Center



**Ardyth J. Eisenberg, Esq.**  
**Dianne B. Elderkin**  
**Gerry J. Elman, J.D.**  
**David R. Eshelman, Esquire**  
**Peter K. Fagen**  
**Allan A. Fanucci**  
**Michael E. Fingerman**



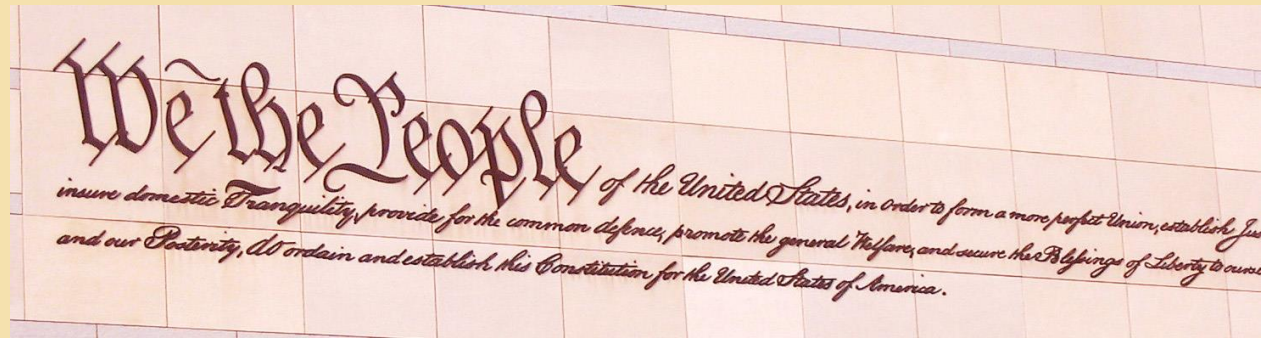
**Elman Technology Law, P.C.**

**STRATEGIC LAWYERING. CULTIVATING INNOVATION.®**

© ETL 2009



# The United States Constitution



"The Congress shall have Power . .  
 . . To promote the Progress of  
 Science and useful Arts, by  
 securing for limited Times to  
 Authors and Inventors the  
 exclusive Right to their  
 respective Writings and  
 Discoveries"

U.S. Const. Art. I, § 8, cl. 8.



Elman Technology Law, P.C.

STRATEGIC LAWYERING. CULTIVATING INNOVATION.®

© ETL 2009

# Background

- Gerry Elman's roots in Philadelphia go back to 1968, when he joined the Rohm and Company patent department.
- He served from 1972 to 1976 in Harrisburg as a Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania as head of its fledgling Antitrust Unit and precursor to the Consumer Advocate before the PUC.

# Background

- In 1976 Gerry moved back to Philadelphia to serve as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division in its Middle Atlantic Office.
- In 1982, Gerry returned to patent practice, opening his own office in the Bourse Building across the street from the Liberty Bell, and founding **Biotechnology Law Report**, of which he continues as editor-in-chief. See <http://www.liebertpub.com/blr>

# Background

- In 1988, Gerry moved to Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, where he practices from offices in his home and in Media (county seat of Delaware County). He does patent and trademark prosecution and counseling, intellectual property litigation, Internet law counseling including IP audits, and expert witnessing on patent and trade regulation matters.
- He has a B.S. in physical sciences from the University of Chicago, an M.S. in chemistry from Stanford, and a J.D. from Columbia.

At [www.elman.com](http://www.elman.com) you can:

- Read Gerry's public answers to legal questions on [LawGuru.com](http://LawGuru.com)
- Read Gerry's public answers to legal questions on [Avvo](http://Avvo)
- Read Gerry's public answers to legal questions on [LinkedIn](http://LinkedIn)



# For Further Information ...

- Visit <http://www.elman.com> and subscribe to information and podcasts **for free**
- Call Gerry Elman at +1 (610) 892-9942
- Send email to [gerry@elman.com](mailto:gerry@elman.com)

But beware ...

# TANSTAFULA

There ain't no such thing as  
FREE LEGAL ADVICE.

A public answer to a legal question or information from a legal podcast might be a helpful start, but it just ...

AIN'T

- “LEGAL ADVICE”