

### Introduction to Law for Paralegals: A Critical Thinking Approach

Katherine A. Currier, Thomas E. Eimermann



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Now in its fourth edition, the highly successful **Introduction to Law for Paralegals** continues to offer paralegal students and instructors a well-rounded and accessible introduction to the legal system, the paralegal's role and the skills involved, as well as to substantive law issues.

### Experienced authors and educators, Currier and Eimermann skillfully present their materials in a way that facilitates teaching and learning. This text offers

- A comprehensive, intelligent overview of all the key concepts covered in a typical introduction to law course
- A **critical thinking approach** that introduces students to the study of law and encourages them to interact with the materials through hypotheticals, examples, and well-designed questions
- Three parts that reflect the topics addressed in an introductory course: *Part I, Paralegals and the American Legal System*, introduces students to the role of the paralegal, sources and classification of law, the structure of the court system, and an overview of litigation. *Part II, Finding and Analyzing the Law*, offers an overview of the basics of legal analysis, research and writing. *Part III, Legal Ethics and Substantive Law*, covers substantive law
- The basic skills necessary to understand statutes and court cases
- **Teaching and learning aids** that include ethics alerts, marginal definitions, Internet references, and legal reasoning exercises throughout the book. Material presented in an accessible and well-organized format
- Substantive law chapters that use edited cases to teach students how to read and analyze the law
- Appendices on **good writing, citation,** excerpts from the **U.S. Constitution, Ethical Codes,** and additional **Net Notes**.

#### **Enhancements in the Fourth Edition include:**

- reorganization of Chapter 6 on Litigation, making this material even easier to teach. The chapter now begins with a discussion of ADR and integrates the use of case studies
- New or expanded coverage of: federal powers and preemption, judicial selection, domain names, electronic discovery, email, contingency fees, intentional interference with a contractual relationship, caps on damages, interpretation of contracts, eminent domain, collaborative divorces, sperm & egg donations, same-sex unions, sentencing guidelines, habeas corpus, and citing of unpublished opinions.
- Discussion of recently decided high-interest cases including *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School Dist.* (use of racial criteria in school assignments), *Phillip Morris v. Williams* (punitive damages), *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire* (statute of limitations for employment discrimination claims), *Scott v. Harris* (police use of excessive force), *Hudson v. Michigan* (exclusionary rule), *Brendlin v. California* (sentencing guidelines), *Bowles v. Russell* (habeas corpus in death penalty cases), *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*

(habeas corpus in terrorism cases), and Rumsfeld v. Padilla (habeas corpus in terrorism cases)

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