
PREFACE

We continue to hear from students that they find the book both accessible and rigorous. Features like the hypotheticals and authors' dialogues highlight areas of uncertainty or genuine disagreement among courts and scholars. At the same time, however, we have striven to avoid the "hide the ball" approach that afflicts far too many casebooks. Where a clear explanation is possible, we have given it, rather than trying to obscure the matter. If something remains murky, it may be due to an error on our parts, in which case we'd appreciate hearing about it. But it may simply be that the issue in question is genuinely difficult.

It is tempting to let a torts casebook rest on a foundation of great cases from the past and not do too much updating. While the American Law Institute Third Restatement of Torts projects continue to generate a great deal of energy, tort doctrine overall has been relatively stable in recent years. The fourth edition of this book was intended to be a comprehensive revision, pruning out deadwood cases and adding in new ones as needed. The revisions for the fifth edition were less comprehensive, but the replacements reflect important developments in the law, including in areas as fundamental as duty, proximate cause, vicarious liability, and products liability.

This is the second edition of the book since the passing of our dear friend Jim Henderson. Jim was a great scholar, a great teacher, a great colleague, a great friend, and above all, a great human being. We miss him terribly but hope to carry on his legacy with this book.

A.D.T. and W.B.W.