



Preface to the Instructor

Remarkable changes have taken place within the American legal landscape since the publication of the last edition. As the American government has responded to repeated national and international crises, expanding responsibilities have been imposed upon businesses. As a result, managers and executives must be aware of and be able to timely respond to these developments. As the legal environment evolves, texts such as this one must identify and explain those responsibilities.

The Second Edition of *Contemporary Business Law* provides the information your students need in both a practical and contemporary way. This newest edition of this text continues its tradition of being the most up-to-date text on the market.

To ensure engagement of your students and their proficiency in difficult legal concepts, this edition features the best ancillary teaching tools at CasebookConnect.com. This product is an all-in-one online learning solution of Aspen Publishing.

What Is Special About This Text

Our goal is to explain legal concepts in a straightforward, student-friendly manner; however, definitions and references alone would not distinguish our efforts from our worthy competitors. We bring the rich context of many years of practicing and teaching business law to our work. Abundant website references and statistics are woven into the text to keep the material relevant. Complex concepts are broken down into a series of easy-to-follow explanations. Typically, after a substantive point is introduced, an actual summarized case example follows. They give context to those legal principles under discussion.

Thorough coverage of all major aspects of business law is included. We took to heart the advice of reviewers. As a result, we rewrote, edited, and added topics for our text. They allowed us to appreciate what and why certain topics were important in their classrooms. They were generous with their commentary, and we thank them.

The text's rich pedagogical design includes:

- Learning objectives
- Clear introductions at the outset of each chapter
- Landmark as well as current cases, edited to give attention to the key points while using the actual language of the court in its decision
- Every briefed case includes thought provoking *Focus on Ethics* questions
- Management applications which encourage students to research or apply a relevant topic to the context of contemporary business.
- A new addition to our topical coverage is the AI Feature at the end of each chapter. Following internet research or application of chapter material, students

have the opportunity to draft documents applying what they have learned to a business issue. The product of an AI query should prompt an engaging class discussion led by the instructor.

- Key terms and concepts are defined in the margins
- A robust glossary
- Related governmental websites are identified to allow the student to explore a topic from the point of view of the regulatory agency.
- Ten cases are provided at the end of each chapter to engage students in the research and application of the law on the chapter topics.

Updated Forms

As a learning tool, current forms used in a business law practice are included. Sample forms are placed throughout the text. They enable students to appreciate how a concept is applied in the real world.

Management Applications

It is one thing to tell a student something is important, but to have the student apply the material in response to a prompt fully engages the student in active learning. Based upon our years of applying the law to business disputes and shaping strategies for clients to execute their plans, we have included many practical management applications for students to apply the material. We include them often throughout the chapters to continue to demonstrate the practicality of the material and allow students to analyze, evaluate, and create material from the management applications. Our AI Feature at the end of each chapter offers a similar learning experience.

AI Feature in Every Chapter

At the end of each chapter, we offer a chapter-related prompt, leading to a query of an artificial intelligence program. This novel approach allows the student to appreciate the significance of the substantive rules presented in the chapter. More importantly, they can use the results of a query to succinctly summarize the application of those rules. Additionally, they can identify the shortcomings of such searches, spot issues, and critically think of how to improve their draft documents.

New Examples and End of Chapter Problems

For the Second Edition of *Contemporary Business Law* examples and case problems have been carefully chosen. Examples are integrated into the text following a legal term

or concept while case problems are meant to serve as learning tools at the end of each chapter.

Instructors will find these examples and case problems helpful in illustrating legal concepts, and students will enjoy reading these cases because they involve interesting facts.

PowerPoint Slides

Supplementing the Contemporary Business Law are PowerPoint slides to accompany each chapter. The slides provide instructors and students with a summary of the main topics in each chapter and serve as a tool for studying and note taking.