

## Preface to the Instructor

Usually, changes to our individual and institutional relationships with the federal government evolve slowly. However, remarkable changes to the *status quo* have occurred recently. The role of the federal government in our personal and business lives has quite suddenly become more direct, expansive, and consequential. While adjusting to the uncertainty presented by these changes, business leaders seek certainty in the law as part of their decision-making. But, certainty of what the law requires is far from assured in the current climate. Moreover, the use of presidential executive orders to effect these changes in lieu of congressional action is being examined in federal forums as well as business law courses.

As a result of the unprecedented number of changes in the law emanating from Washington, 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 in a sensible, approachable manner.

The second edition of *The Legal Environment of Business* provides the information your students need in both a practical and contemporary way. In line with our other texts, this text continues our tradition of being the most up-to-date text on the market, while engaging students in practical management applications throughout the text.

To ensure engagement of your students and their proficiency in difficult legal concepts, this text 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 new cases, edited to give attention to the key points while using the actual language of the court in its decision
- Hundreds of examples, to permit students to understand the application of the law
- Thought-provoking *Focus on Ethics* questions accompanying every briefed case
- New management applications that encourage students to research or apply a relevant topic to the context of contemporary business
- Key terms defined in the margins
- A robust glossary
- Related governmental websites that allow the student to explore a topic from the point of view of the regulatory agency
- Ample end-of-chapter and Study Center exercises that offer opportunities for students to apply what they have learned

#### New for the Second Edition:

- **A new AI feature at the end of every chapter.** Following suggested internet research, the student may use artificial intelligence in real-world situations. This exciting innovation invites students to create and analyze contract clauses and basic legal documents using an AI program, while reinforcing learning outcomes and critical thinking skills.

## Current Forms

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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

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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 that allow students to apply the material. We include them often throughout the chapters to continue to demonstrate the practicality of the material and to allow students to analyze, evaluate, and create material from the management applications.

## PowerPoint Slides

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Supplementing *The Legal Environment of Business* 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.