

Synopsis

Constitutional principles are the foundation upon which substantive criminal law, criminal procedure law, and evidence laws rely. The concepts of due process, legality, specificity, notice, equality, and fairness are intrinsic to these three disciplines, and a firm understanding of their implications is necessary for a thorough comprehension of the topic. *Criminal Law, Procedure, and Evidence* examines the tensions produced by balancing the ideals of individual liberty embodied in the Constitution against society's need to enforce criminal laws as a means of achieving social control, order, and safety. Relying on his first-hand experience as a law enforcement official and criminal defense attorney, the author presents issues that highlight the difficulties in applying constitutional principles to specific criminal justice situations. Each chapter of the text contains a realistic problem in the form of a fact pattern that focuses on one or more of the classic criminal justice issues to which readers can relate. These problems are presented from both the point of view of citizens caught up in a police investigation and from the perspective of police officers attempting to enforce the law within the framework of constitutional protections. Concepts discussed include Probable cause Search and seizure, stop and frisk, and the exclusionary rule Confessions and Miranda warnings The right to counsel Lineups Standards of proof Proportionate sentencing The right to confront accusers Providing a complete view of American legal principles, the book addresses distinct issues as well as the overlays and connections between the issues. It presents as a cohesive whole the interrelationships between constitutional principles, statutory criminal laws, procedural law, and common law evidentiary doctrines.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before practicing as a criminal defense attorney and teaching at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Walter P. Signorelli was a member of the New York City Police Department for more than thirty years. He retired as an Inspector in the Detective Division and had been the commanding officer of precincts in Brooklyn and Manhattan, in the Organized Crime Control Bureau, and in the Narcotics Division. He is a graduate of St. John's University School of Law and the Columbia University Police Management Institute. He is the author of *The Constable Has Blundered: The Exclusionary Rule, Crime, and Corruption* and *The Crisis of Police Liability Lawsuits*.

The book is well structured and makes a great use of combining procedural law language and terminology with examples of actual cases; which makes the material significantly easier to understand and remember. The book was interesting enough that I often found myself reading past the assigned material, something very unusual for me when it comes to reading required textbooks. Regarding "poor navigation of the book". The issue there is only with the kindle software and publisher, not the paperback version of the book itself. I came across the issue of pages not being numbered with many other kindle books.

The only thing I didn't like was that it is hard to navigate throughout the book. It took me forever to find the page number that I need by you couldn't search for the specific page

It's an excellent book, it is well written and easy to understand. The most important is that it gives you an excellent and specify view of criminal law with examples of legal cases. The author explains all the information and the cases in a way that is helpful when reading, studying and learning. I highly recommend this book if you want to learn criminal law. With this book you will be able to clearly understand and learn a lot. THE BEST BOOK for Criminal Law!!!!!!! I have this book a 10/5 Stars !!!

I found this textbook very well written, the author makes many complex legal issues understandable to beginning law students. His use of actual criminal cases made the book interesting to read. I highly recommend it.

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