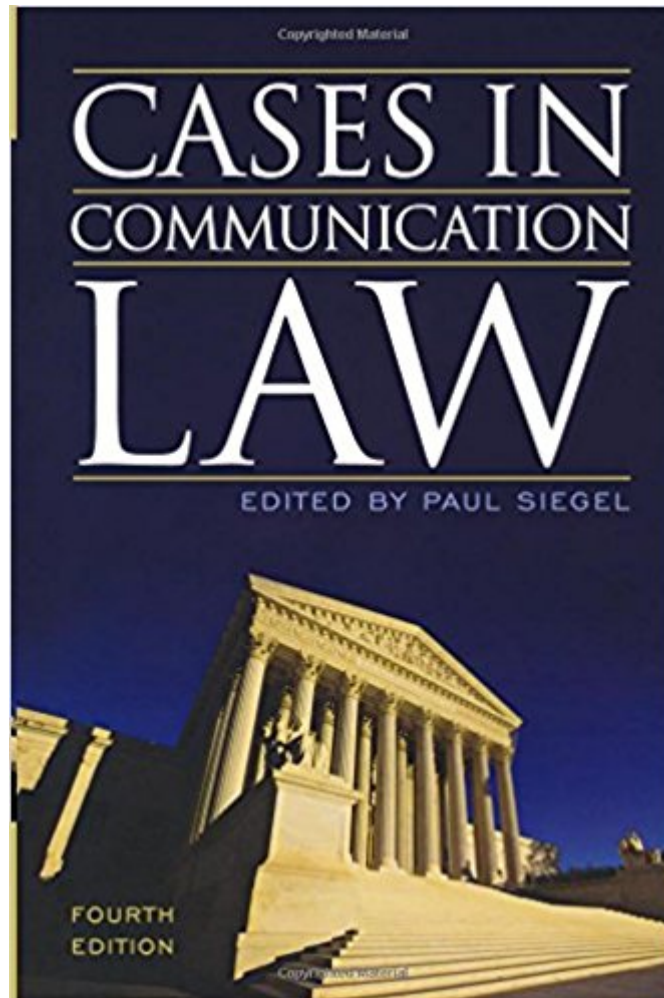




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# Cases In Communication Law



## Synopsis

Of the seventy-three cases in the fourth edition of Paul Siegel's *Cases in Communication Law*, twenty-eight are new to this edition. Among these are such Supreme Court decisions as *Air Wisconsin Airlines Corporation v. Hoeper*, which gives those who follow the post-9/11 instruction, "if you see something, say something" some special protection from libel suits; *Brown v. Entertainment Merchants Association*, which explicitly gives maximal First Amendment protection to violent video games, even when sold to minors; *U.S. v. Alvarez*, which prohibits prosecution for falsely claiming one has been awarded a Medal of Honor; and *Snyder v. Phelps*, which gave notorious minister Fred Phelps the right to mount demonstrations with rather nasty messages at funerals. Siegel has used several criteria to select cases for inclusion in this and previous editions. He admits unabashedly that one of those criteria is the cultural significance, familiarity, and even celebrity of the controversies or the litigants. Just to cite a few examples, this edition includes cases involving such litigants as Michael Moore, Penn & Teller, Joan Rivers, and Madonna, as well as TV programs like *Family Guy*, *CSI*, *Law and Order*, and featured movies include *Disturbia*, *American Gangster*, *American Beauty*, and *The Hangover, Part II*.

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Paul Siegel is professor of communication at the University of Hartford. He has been teaching course work in media law for over 30 years at American University, Catholic University, Gallaudet University, George Mason University, Illinois State University, Keene State College, Tulane University, the University of Connecticut, the University of Missouri, and the University of North

Carolina. He has also published dozens of book chapters and law review and communication journal articles on various subjects related to communication law. Siegel was the founding executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and Western Missouri.

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