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# Wills, Trusts, And Estates



## Synopsis

Retaining the late **Jesse Dukeminier's** signature blend of wit, erudition, insight, and playfulness, **Wills, Trusts, and Estates**, now in its **Eighth Edition**, continues to offer interesting cases, well written notes, and a logical organization. The **Eight Edition's** new Companion Website, available with adoptions, includes an electronic version of the Teacher's Manual, PowerPoint slides on selected topics, and author updates.

A stellar example of a great casebook, **Wills, Trusts, and Estates** features:

- eminently clear presentation of topics
- comprehensive substantive coverage
- inspired case selection
- engaging notes, questions, and problems that connect and highlight legal themes and principles
- humorous and illustrative cartoons, art, photographs, and other images
- a detailed Teacher's Manual that answers every question and problem posed in the casebook and includes comments on material cited in the text, analyses, comments, syllabus notes, and teaching suggestions

With many new and revised notes, questions, and problems, the carefully updated Eighth Edition explores:

- New developments in law reform by the **ALI** and **NCCUSL**, such as:
  - the **2008 Amendments** to the **Uniform Probate Code**, including validation of **notarized wills**, reformation of wills for mistake, and a reworking of the **spousal share**
  - the **Uniform Power of Attorney Act**
  - further progress in the **Restatement (Third) of Trusts** and **Restatement (Third) of Property**
- Ongoing developments in the law, in such areas as:
  - inheritance rights for same-sex partners
  - the posthumous right of publicity
  - the power of an agent to alter an incompetent principal's estate plan
  - liberalized rules of trust modification and termination, and of trustee removal
  - standing for donors in suits against the trustees of charitable trusts
  - perpetual trusts and self-settled asset protection trusts
- Increasingly important topics such as:
  - the movement to cure will execution defects and reform mistakes in wills
  - fiduciary administration and trust investment law
  - will contests, particularly the law of capacity and insane delusion

Co-authors **Robert Sitkoff** and **James Lindgren** took great care to preserve the voice and spirit of Jesse Dukeminier, while fulfilling the trust and expectation among users for timely and relevant coverage, cases, and

note material. </p> <p> <p> <p> \*Teacher's Manuals are a professional courtesy offered to professors only. For more information or to request a copy, please contact Aspen Publishers at 800-950-5259 or [legaledu@wolterskluwer.com](mailto:legaledu@wolterskluwer.com). </p> <p> <p> <p> <p> <p> <p> <p>

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This casebook is filled with good notes by the author. The cases are among the most interesting cases you'll read in law school. I think that the notes before and after the cases are very good. You could make a good outline or flash-card stack based on these note sections, but a good bar outline is always a good companion. The last section covers estate and gift tax law, which is good to know as a practitioner even though it is not on the California bar exam.... California students MUST be sure to have some additional material to compare because California law does differ from the law in this book on certain points. I give this book four stars because the order of issues is a bit strange. Also, some of the cases are too long and could have been summed up in a quick notes point. However, as far as casebooks go, this is a good one.

Whether you are the law student to whom the book is addressed, or just a savvy layman who needs to fill some gaps quickly, this book just may be all you'll ever need on wills, trusts, and estates. I ordered ten books to research my paper on inter vivos trusts and over half the footnotes reference Dukeminier. In each topical area, the general statutes are explained, often with ancillary explanations of tax treatment, then the authors dive into cases, explaining how the cases were argued and adjudicated. The text flows so well that you feel as though you are having a

conversation with the authors. I particularly enjoyed the entertaining anecdotes drawn from pop culture. Do not let the cost of this book be a factor in your decision to purchase it; you may find yourself referring to it when you attend to your own will, trusts, and estate.

If you are learning trust and estates this is the main textbook you will use. I thought it was a good book with interesting cases. I particularly liked how this book used recent issues in law like what happens if your spouse dies and you use their frozen sperm or eggs to get pregnant and have children. Do they receive part of the estate? These cutting edge issues in law are covered in this book and make it the best trusts and estates textbook.

This text book is a must for any legal student who wants a better understanding of the Wills, Trust, and Estates process.

Fairly easy to read and follow. Probably not very useful for non-law students who just want a quick overview of the subject matter. If I were teaching a Trusts & Estates class I'd definitely use this as the required casebook though. The newer edition includes some important updates (ex. fed'l estate tax threshold today vs. in 2009), but otherwise they're largely the same.

This book is a good book, but the update is not needed. My friend next to me in class has the seventh edition of this text and comparing the eighth edition to the previous it is obvious that the publisher is just going after more money. So few pages have been updated, so few cases have been added, they could have easily issued a paperback supplement to the seventh edition and saved students money. Putting my objections to how the textbook industry operates aside, this book is a decent read. The authors do a good job of explaining the law and the cases are edited fairly well. I'm in my third year of law school and have had several different texts by now. I would place this one on the better end. The text itself - 7 of 10. Was it a necessary update - 0 of 10.

A little old, but the price is very good. conclusion, it is good

Item was correct and arrived within the estimated delivery time. The book itself has some entertaining footnotes and pictures but the organization is annoying. It has constant 'NOTE:'s that don't really fit into the headings and should have headings of their own. Tough to take notes with.

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