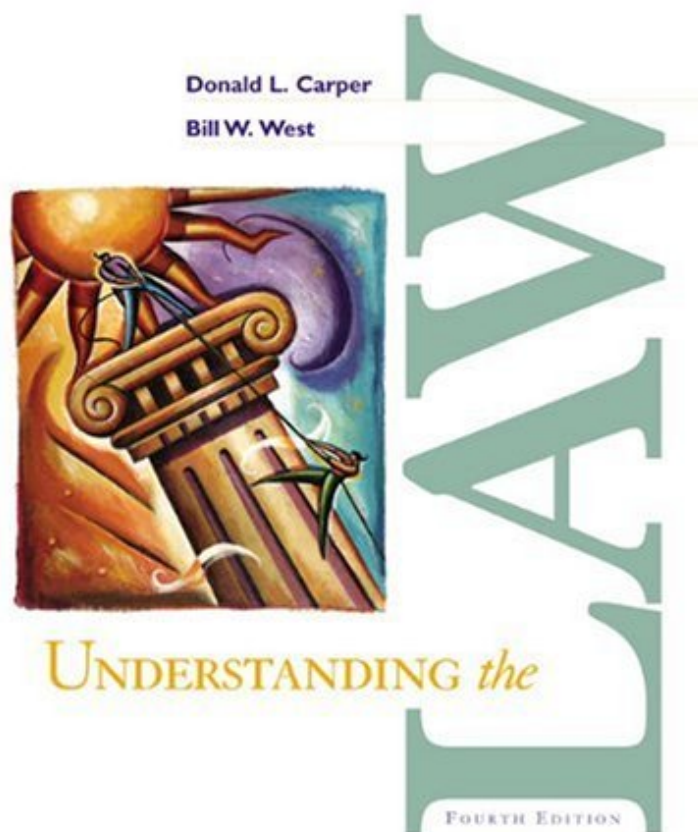


Understanding the Law

Donald L. Carper, Bill W. West

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Donald L. Carper, Bill W. West : Understanding the Law before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding the Law:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wonderfully written textbook. A review of the hardcover version: By J. Shorts I have been in college for four years now and have purchased over fifty textbooks. Some of the books I've had to use have been so-so. Some have been nice to read. Some have been formatted terribly. For some reason, I resent publishers who make book with less than a one-inch margin all the way around each page, and there shows to be an obvious effort by the publisher to condense the book as much as possible for the sake of cost. I also hate books that have rough pages in them, with the wood pulp floating about so large that ants could surf on them. These pages suck up highlighter ink so greatly that it's ridiculous. I also do not like reading a textbook that has massive grammatical errors or an author with a heavy liberal or conservative pull. I want to learn, and that means I want to learn facts. This book has none of those issues! 1. Margins: The page margins are beautiful, and while the book is all in black and white,

I was still not overwhelmed or bored by the format.² Material: The authors and/or their editors have a gloriously fluent writing style. The information is packed in, but I found I could read this book effortlessly. The "extra" boxes stand out and give the reader good examples of what the laws and statutes are, and the end-of-chapter cases are really interesting. Some are over 100 years old, which is kind of neat.³ Political slant: The material in this book is offered in a factual way. One of the examples that reassured me was the McDonald's coffee case. I have researched this case for other classes, and I was very moved by victim's suffering. The pictures you can find online of the burns suffered by plaintiff Liebeck will surprise you if you have never seen them. This poor woman lost over 20 percent of her body weight and suffered immeasurably, and this all happened after McDonald's received thousands of previous complaints and was known to serve coffee hotter than the industry standard. Worse, McDonald's refused her initial desire to just have her medical bills paid, present and expected. I was very glad to see that the authors used this case in full fact to show how civil torts can be deceiving. No slant, just facts.⁴ Grammar: The book has few--if any--grammatical errors. As a grammar Nazi, this pleases me. Pronouns match antecedents. My tenuous and fragile hold on the world, the one that is reduced to a shambles upon when "their" replaces "his or her," remains unshaken.⁵ Categorization of information: I thought the book's chapters made sense. The first two chapters may be a bit much to ingest if you are new to basic law, but once you get to Chapter Three, the information is put forth in such a rational and soothing order that basic law becomes less of a monster and more of an intriguing topic of study.⁶ Price: For \$135.00, I was pleased. Of course, my school's book store wanted \$212.00, but we all are familiar with this gambit. (This and the time gambit ... the professor doesn't post the book until two days before the class begins, and so that students must use the campus bookstore. Academic rapscallions!)⁷ Actual book materials: The pages are not too shiny, but nor do they have massive, Titanic-sinking woodbergs floating inside of them. The pages absorb just enough highlighter to not allow for smearing but to also to allow my highlighters to last for more than two days, for ridiculous wicking of ink. If you are sitting in a sunny room or by a table lamp, you are not blinded by the sheen of the sun off the page. I usually keep my books anyway, but I will most definitely not be getting rid of this text book for years to come. I do recommend this text book from all these points of interest and wish that more text books were made this well. Nicely done, Carper and McKinsey! It's a good day when a book makes the retention of information possible and enjoyable.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. Future Harvard Lawyer By Austin If you are new to law, I think this is a great beginners book. I bought this book because of my love for Suits and my love for the law has increased after reading chapters in this book.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. No tricks Excellent purchase By Yvonne K. Excellent purchase. Was exactly what I expected.

This widely accepted text discusses how various aspects of the law affect the individual. Designed for introductory courses, hypothetical and real legal examples are interspersed throughout the text to illustrate important points of the law and to inspire lively class discussion.

About the Author Professor Donald Carper began his career as an analyst for the State of California Coordinating Council for higher education researching critical issues in higher education for the California legislature. He served six years as Dean of Students and Lecturer in law at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of law. For the last twenty-five years he has taught in Colleges of Business at the University of the Pacific and California State University and the School of Agricultural Economics at the University of California, Davis. He practiced law and was the managing attorney for a medium size business and health law firm. While at McGeorge he helped establish the Institute for Administrative Justice which established a national reputation for training administrative hearing officers. His interest in administrative hearings as alternatives to judicial resolution led to an early interest in alternative dispute resolution. He acts as an arbitrator and mediator working to resolve public and private disputes. He is an Associate with the California Center for Public Dispute Resolution and serves on the Northern California Advisory Committee for the American Arbitration Association. He has been active in International programs. In recent years Professor Carper worked to establish two mediation centers in the Kaluga, Oblast in Russia. In addition he has worked on ADR programs and training of judges and lawyers in West Africa. His work in both Africa and Russia continues. In addition he has created and participated in training programs for lawyers and judges from Russia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Korea, and China at the California State University, Sacramento campus. Professor Carper received his undergraduate degree from California State University, Chico in Personnel and Industrial Relations, his Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and his Juris Doctor from the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific. Professor West began his career with the practice of law followed by a stint in real estate development and investment. For many years he served as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. These activities overlapped his tenure with California State University, Sacramento where he taught law and real estate in the business school. Now an Emeritus Professor, West received his undergraduate degree from University of California, Berkeley, his Master's in Business Administration from Golden Gate University, and his Juris Doctor from UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law.