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The Legal Environment of Business

Edward J. Conry

University of Colorado at Denver

Gerald R. Ferrera

Bentley College

Karla H. Fox

University of Connecticut

in collaboration with

Margo E.K. Reder

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The Authors

EDWARD J. CONRY received a B.A. from California State University at Fullerton, an M.B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley, and a J.D. from the University of California at Davis. He is the author or co-author of over ten books on business law and/or business ethics, and is co-author of the Allyn & Bacon text, *Business Law: Text and Cases, The Legal Environment*. Professor Conry is past president of the Rocky Mountain Business Law Association and has served as a reviewer and staff editor for the *American Business Law Journal*. He is the Founding Chair of the ABLA Section on Business Ethics. In addition, he has written a weekly column on Business Ethics for the past four years for *The Denver Post*. He is currently an Associate Professor of Business Law and Ethics at the University of Colorado at Denver.

GERALD R. FERRERA received a B.S. from Boston College, an M.S. in taxation from Bentley College, and a J.D. from the New England School of Law. He, too, has co-authored several books on business law and numerous articles on law and the legal environment. Professor Ferrera received the 1991 Hoeber Award given by the Academy of Legal Studies in Business for scholarly presentation and received the 1992 Scholar of the Year Award from Bentley College. Professor Ferrera is past president of the North Atlantic Business Law Association, is a legal consultant to professional and business associations, and is a member of the Massachusetts and Federal Bars. Gerald Ferrera, formerly Chair of the Law Department, is presently a Professor of Law at Bentley College.

KARLA H. FOX received her B.A. and her J.D. from Duke University. She is past staff editor of the *American Business Law Journal*, past legal advisor to the Connecticut General Assembly, and is a member of the North Carolina and Connecticut Bars. Professor Fox is currently Associate Dean of the School of Business Administration at the University of Connecticut, where she is a Professor of Business Law.

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To the Student

This edition of *The Legal Environment of Business* has been extensively revised to be of the maximum possible value to you in learning about this subject. The following features in particular are designed to help you study and learn the principles of the legal environment of business:

Learning Objectives The learning objectives at the beginning of every chapter give you a preview of the key concepts you will be expected to learn.

Cases Each chapter contains four to six actual legal cases, which are edited for length. These cases help you to understand legal principles and how they are applied. At the end of each case are several case questions that are intended to help you analyze the case.

International Forum boxes Each chapter has an International Forum box that will show you how legal principles are affected by the global environment of business. As business becomes increasingly international in scope, it will be more and more important for businesspeople to be aware of the international implications of their actions and decisions. There is also a separate chapter, Chapter 24, on International Business Law.

Ethics Forum boxes Another important theme of this text is ethics—how businesspeople can apply ethical principles to their day-to-day activities. Chapter 2, Business Ethics and the Law, introduces you to some basic schools of thought on ethics. An Ethics Forum box in every chapter presents examples of real-life ethical dilemmas and the consequences that result from behaving in ethical or unethical ways. At the end of every chapter, separate Questions on Ethics help you learn to analyze and apply ethical principles.

Manager's Checklist This feature presents you with a summary of important chapter points from the perspective of the manager in business. As a businessperson, you will be expected to know these basic legal principles and to distinguish those issues that you can handle on your own from those for which you may need to employ the assistance of legal counsel.

Chapter Summary This feature summarizes the major text points that were outlined in the learning objectives at the beginning of each chapter. Make sure you understand each summary point; if not, you may need to go back and read again that section of the text.

Key Terms Each key term is printed in boldface type when it is defined in the chapter. A list of key terms with page references is printed at the end of each chapter. You should know these terms and be able to define them. A Glossary of terms with definitions is provided at the end of the text.

Questions on Law These questions are based on actual case situations that you will need to analyze and to which you will apply the legal principles you learned in the chapter. These questions teach you to think critically and analytically about the legal principles you have learned.

Questions on Ethics These questions center on ethical questions or dilemmas. Based on the ethical principles you learned in Chapter 2, Business Ethics and the Law, you should be able to analyze each situation and come to a conclusion about what actions would be in keeping with ethical principles.

Business Case A Business Case at the end of every chapter provides you with a real-life controversy or example of how legal principles affect everyday business situations at actual companies. You may remember or recognize some of these examples from the daily news. Again, the questions at the end of each Business Case are designed to help you think about and apply chapter principles to this real-life situation.

Suggested Readings The list of Suggested Readings at the end of each chapter provides you with additional references for reports or papers. They will give you more in-depth information about a particular topic.

Appendices There are a number of appendices at the end of the text. These appendices include excerpts of some of the most important laws that affect U.S. businesses, as well as the complete text of the U.S. Constitution.

Glossary The Glossary at the end of the text provides a complete definition of every key term from all of the chapters of the text.

Case Names The cases studied in the text are listed immediately following the table of contents. This list can be used to help you locate a particular case. Use it as part of your review process.

Student Study Guide

A student study guide is available to provide you with extra help. It provides a study outline of each chapter, with questions that help you prepare for tests. In addition, special exercises show you how to “brief” a case. Ethical Case Analysis exercises help sharpen your understanding of the ethical principles presented in the text. In addition, Enrichment Exercises provide additional review as well as extra information for students who want to explore the text topics further.

An understanding of the legal environment is crucial to every businessperson as is the ability to understand and apply ethical principles. We hope that our text has provided this information in an interesting and enjoyable way to help you become an effective and successful businessperson. Good luck in your studies!

E.J. Conry
G.R. Ferrera
K.H. Fox

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