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TRADEMARKS
Fifth Edition

By

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610 Opperman Drive
P.O. Box 64526
St. Paul, MN 55164-0526
1-800-328-9352

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Printed in the United States of America

ISBN 0-314-26283-0



TEXT IS PRINTED ON 10% POST
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Dedication

*To Robert A. Choate
Lawyer, Teacher, Scholar, Mentor,
Partner and Friend*

*

Preface to the Fifth Edition

This fifth edition provides some basic materials and understanding of the intellectual property law systems of other countries, particularly European countries, and some comparison with United States intellectual property law. Legislation resulting from harmonization efforts and recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals have resulted in significant revision and updating of many sections of this casebook. The widespread adoption of the State Uniform Trade Secrets Act and recent court decisions based thereon have necessitated rewriting the trade secrets section. Hopefully, this fifth edition, like its predecessors, will be well received and widely used by teachers, students, judges and practitioners.

This introduction to intellectual property law, and particularly patent and copyright law, has been motivated by both the abiding conviction that the fragile sparks of creativity need significant encouragement and protection to risk labor and capital in fanning them into flames which hopefully will, but often do not, forge bountiful fruits of innovation for the benefit of the public welfare and the desire to contribute to one's chosen profession.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of our associates and the suggestions of students, teachers, partners and others. We are particularly indebted to Robert Choate for his work in prior editions, some of which is retained in this fifth edition. We greatly appreciate the assistance of Shirley A. Wisniewski Langley in preparing the transcript for submission to the publisher.

We gratefully appreciate the patience, support, encouragement and forbearance of our wives, Susan and Patricia, and our children, Anna, Peggy, Kimberly, Robert and David, without which this casebook, and many other things, would be impossible. They also contributed in more ways than we will ever know.

WILLIAM H. FRANCIS & ROBERT C. COLLINS

Detroit, Michigan
January, 2002

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