# Writing and Analysis in the Law

THIRD EDITION

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## WRITING AND ANALYSIS IN THE LAW

#### THIRD EDITION

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#### **DEDICATION**

To our families—
Marshall, Benjamin, and Nathaniel Shapo
Ron, Amy, and Alison Walter
Bob, Nicholas, Rachel, and Paul Zimmerman
For the love, support, and advice they have given us
before and during the preparation of this book.

#### PREFACE

Many people find writing a difficult and frustrating process. As a result, they put off writing projects in the hope that they will eventually be struck by inspiration. Unfortunately, few professions, especially the legal profession, are willing to postpone business in anticipation of this happening.

This book is devoted, therefore, to taking control over the writing process away from chance and investing it in ourselves. We have tried to break the legal reasoning and writing process into manageable components to enable you to be conscious of that process and to be master of your thoughts and their expression. We hope this awareness of the writing process will also make you less anxious when writing and more satisfied with your work when finished.

Writing and Analysis in the Law is a collaborative effort. Decisions about the scope of the book and the focus of each chapter were made jointly. In addition, the authors edited each other's chapters extensively, making both substantive and stylistic contributions to each chapter. We have learned much from each other and hope the book confirms our belief in the benefits of editing and rewriting.

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