

Online Instructor's Manual
to accompany

Legal Terminology

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Gordon W. Brown

Professor Emeritus, North Shore Community College

Kent D. Kauffman

Indiana-Purdue University, Fort Wayne

Prentice Hall

Boston Columbus Indianapolis New York San Francisco Upper Saddle River

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Chapter 1

Court Systems and Jurisdiction

Ante Interrogatory: D

Chapter Overview

After differentiating between federal and state court systems, Chapter 1 examines the subject of selecting the court, including matters of jurisdiction. The chapter also explores alternative dispute resolutions available for those who wish to settle disputes outside of court.

Chapter Objectives

The objectives in chapter 1 are to teach students the difference between federal and state courts, to help them learn what jurisdiction and venues are, and to enlighten them on the alternative dispute resolution options.

Lecture Outline

- I. Federal Courts
 - A. U.S. District Court
 - B. U.S. Court of Appeals
 - C. U.S. Supreme Court
- II. State Courts
 - A. State Trial Courts
 - B. State Intermediate Appellate Courts
 - C. State Supreme Courts
- III. Jurisdiction and Venue
 - A. In Rem Action
 - B. Quasi in Rem Action
 - C. In Personam Action
 - D. Venue
- VI. Alternative Dispute Resolution
 - A. Negotiation
 - B. Mediation
 - C. Arbitration
 - D. Mini-trial

Notes

The Sources of Law box is a side note to students to help them grasp from where law in the United States comes. Word Wise boxes are helpful to students as they learn about how words are used in several ways, such as the word “court” in this chapter. The other Word Wise box addressing the definition “to speak” can help students’ minds connect with words they are already familiar with in learning new terms. Prefixes and suffixes often indicate a Latin root word, and as students recognize them, they can remember new term definitions easier.

List of Changes

Two Terms in Action boxes are in every chapter to illustrate how terms are used in real-life situations. Some are current, quirky stories including celebrities, and others are interesting historical cases with surprise endings that will help students remember the terms in the chapters.

In Chapter 1, the Terms in Action educate the student about courts, jurisdiction and venues. In the Terms in Action box about Laci Peterson, the story addresses the occurrence of change in venue.

Unraveling Legalese is not in the textbook, but is found below for the instructor to give to students as another exercise.

Reviewing What You Learned

1. Federal courts hear cases that raise a federal question (a matter that involves the U.S. Constitution, acts of Congress, or treason). Federal courts also decide cases that involve diversity of citizenship (over \$75,000) between persons from different states, between citizens of the United States and a foreign government, and between citizens of the United States and citizens of a foreign country. In addition, federal courts hear bankruptcy cases, patent and copyright cases, and admiralty cases.
2. Appeals from a state supreme court may be made to the U.S. Supreme Court only when a federal or U.S. Constitutional question is raised.
3. U. S. Courts of Appeals decide cases that have been appealed from federal district courts,
4. For a court to have jurisdiction over an action in rem, the property must be located in the state (and usually the county) where the court sits.
5. If a defendant owns real property in one state and lives in another, the court where the real property is located has jurisdiction over the property only, not the person.
6. In question 7, if suit is brought against the defendant in the state where the property is located and the out-of-state defendant does not appear, the plaintiff's recovery will be limited to an amount up to the value of the property located in that state.
7. To bring a lawsuit against a person and hold him or her personally liable, a personal action, called an in personam action, must be brought by the plaintiff.
8. If the plaintiff's attorney begins an action in a court of improper venue, the defendant's attorney may have the case dismissed.
9. Jurisdiction relates to the power of the court to hear a case, whereas venue relates to the geographic location where the action should be tried.
10. Mediation has a neutral third party (mediator or conciliator) who listens to both sides and makes suggestions for reaching a solution. The mediator tries to persuade the parties to compromise and settle their differences. A mediator is not empowered to make parties settle, but he has authority over the mediation process.
Arbitration has a neutral third party who makes a decision after hearing the arguments of both sides. Parties have already agreed to resolve their dispute according to a pre-determined arbitration process. Parties can agree to binding arbitration (arbitrator's decision will be final) or non-binding arbitration (arbitrator's decision is simply recommended with no need to comply to it).
11. Negotiation is a two-party process that has no help of a neutral third party. The sides attempt to conclude its dispute by bargaining with each other until one side agrees to the

other side's offer of settlement. Parties in legal dispute may have legal representation, but it is not necessary. A written agreement (settlement terms are often kept private) settles the dispute.

12. Mediation is an informal process in which a neutral third party (mediator or conciliator) listens to both sides and makes suggestions for reaching a solution. It takes place in stages and breaks into private sessions called caucuses. The mediator uses his or her listening skills and the ability to ask probing questions to learn what the interests are behind each side's demands. From that point on the mediator seeks small gains from each side as he or she works to bring disputing parties together so a mutually acceptable agreement (settlement) can be reached. The mediator is not empowered to make the parties settle, but he or she has the authority over the mediation process.
13. The parties in an arbitration process agree to binding arbitration in advance. It is the decision that the arbitrator or conciliator (neutral third party) makes in favor of one side, which must be in writing. It is called the arbitrator's award.

Understanding Legal Concepts

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1. T | 6. F, property |
| 2. F, four | 7. T |
| 3. T | 8. F, property, person |
| 4. T | 9. T |
| 5. F, sometimes | 10. T |

Checking Terminology (Part A)

- | | | | | |
|------|------|----------|-------|----------|
| 1. h | 5. s | 9. m | 13. z | 17. c |
| 2. v | 6. n | 10. a, t | 14. k | 18. b, j |
| 3. q | 7. x | 11. g | 15. l | 19. d |
| 4. o | 8. y | 12. r | 16. p | 20. e |
| | | | | 21. W |

NOTE: Terms not used: f. cert.den.; i. court; u. negotiation

Checking Terminology (Part B)

- | | | | | |
|---------|------|-------|-------|----------|
| 1. h, n | 5. l | 9. a | 13. g | 17. j, p |
| 2. e | 6. t | 10. c | 14. v | 18. r |
| 3. i, o | 7. m | 11. d | 15. b | 19. k |
| 4. f | 8. q | 12. s | 16. u | |

NOTE: Terms not used: u. statute

Unraveling Legalese

Use simple, non-legal language, with the help of the glossary, to rewrite this quote in the space below so that it is shorter and can be understood by a layperson without losing its meaning.

Exercise:

The Appellants argue that Congress's use of the permissive "may" instead of obligatory "must" demonstrates an intention to sustain concurrent jurisdiction. While it is true that some courts have found concurrent jurisdiction because of the use of the permissive "may," the statutes at issue in such cases did not contain the more potent language contained in this statute: "original

exclusive jurisdiction.” That difference makes the analysis in those cases inapplicable.

Answer:

The party that appealed argued that Congress’s use of “may” instead of “must” in the law shows that it meant to allow two or more courts to decide the case. Although some courts have decided cases following that argument, those cases did not have the stronger statutory language with the words “original exclusive jurisdiction,” which means that only one particular court has the power to hear the case when it is first brought to trial.

Using Legal Language

To settle a dispute by means other than litigation over who owned the lot next to her, Susan tried to get Conrad to participate in a(n) **alternate dispute** resolution. Conrad wanted to use **negotiation** because he didn’t want anyone else involved. Susan wanted to use **mediation** (also called **conciliation**)—an informal process in which a neutral third person listens to both sides and makes suggestions for reaching a solution. This case was not one involving a defendant who owned land in one state and lived in another; therefore, it was not a(n) **quasi in rem** action. The **venue** for the trial was Salem because that is where the disputed land was located, and the court in that city had **jurisdiction** over the case. Because the case involved title to land, the trial had to be held in the county where the **res** was located, and because the suit was directed against property, it was a(n) **in rem** action not a(n) **in personam** action. The suit was a(n) **local** action rather than a(n) **transitory** action because it could only be brought in one place. In addition, because the Salem court was the only one that had the power to hear the case, it had **exclusive jurisdiction** rather than **concurrent jurisdiction**. Owing to the fact that the case was being tried for the first time, the court had **original jurisdiction** not **appellate jurisdiction**.

Chapter 2

Criminal Trial Procedure

Ante Interrogatory: D

Chapter Overview

Chapter 2 explains criminal trial procedure, beginning the arrest, preliminary hearing, indictment, and arraignment, followed by sentencing and defendants' rights.

Chapter Objectives

By studying this chapter, students can learn that the process of criminal cases being taken to court is governed by rules that have been adopted by federal and state governments. The procedure is outlined in the chapter, and the rules of criminal procedure may be found on the Internet for further study. Students will also learn where defendants' rights come from and what they are.

Lecture Outline

- I. Arrest
- II. Preliminary Hearing
- III. Indictment
- IV. Arraignment
- V. Reasonable Doubt
- VI. Sentencing
- VII. Defendants' Rights
- VIII. Trial Separation

Notes

Miranda Warnings are listed in a box, which can be helpful to the student as they study criminal procedure.

The Web Wise box encourages students to look at overviews of criminal and civil procedure at the Legal Information Institute at www.law.cornell.edu and federal procedure rules and Internet jurisdiction at www.findlaw.com.

List of Changes

The Terms in Action boxes highlights a criminal situation using terms from the chapter and the longest single prison sentence ever given.

Unraveling Legalese is not in the textbook, but is found below for the instructor to give the students as another exercise.

Reviewing What You Learned

1. The federal, state, or local government brings the action in a criminal case.
2. A criminal action begins with the issuance of an arrest warrant.
3. If the court finds probable cause that the defendant committed a crime, he or she is either

- kept in jail or released on bail or on personal recognizance.
4. A grand jury is a jury consisting of not more than 23 people who listen to evidence and decide whether or to charge someone with the commission of a crime.
 5. An indictment is a formal written charge made by a grand jury. In contrast, an arraignment is the act of calling a person before the court to answer the indictment or information.
 6. If the judge or jury finds there is a reasonable doubt that the defendant committed the crime, the accused must be acquitted.
 7. When arrested, suspects must be told, before being questioned, that they have the following constitutional rights: (1) the right to remain silent, (2) any statement made by them may be used against them to gain conviction, (3) they have the right to consult with a lawyer, and to have a lawyer present during questioning, (4) a lawyer will be provided without cost for indigent defendants.
 8. Answers will vary. The severity of victim impact can influence the parole boards' decision on granting parole.
 9. A commutation of a sentence reduces it, making it less severe, whereas a pardon sets aside the punishment altogether.
 10. A bifurcated trial is one that is separated into two parts providing for separate hearings for different issues in the same lawsuit. In contrast, severance of actions occurs when a court separates lawsuits or prosecutions involving multiple parties into separate, independent cases, resulting in separate final judgments.

Understanding Legal Concepts

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. F, the public at large, is | 6. T |
| 2. F, always | 7. F, parole |
| 3. T | 8. T |
| 4. T | 9. F, concurrent |
| 5. F, defendant | 10. F, bifurcated trial |

Checking Terminology (Part A)

- | | | | | |
|------|------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. h | 5. d | 9. q | 13. g | 17. j |
| 2. m | 6. b | 10. v | 14. k, o | 18. i |
| 3. p | 7. n | 11. f | 15. x | 19. l |
| 4. a | 8. e | 12. r | 16. w | 20. c |

NOTE: Terms not used: s. grand jury; t. guilty; u. inadmissible

Checking Terminology (Part B)

- | | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-------|--------|
| 1. v | 5. e | 9. c | 13. x | 17. w |
| 2. j | 6. m, o | 10. h, i | 14. g | 18. u* |
| 3. n | 7. a | 11. f | 15. t | 19. u* |
| 4. q | 8. k | 12. y | 16. l | 20. r |

*Questions #18 and #19 are duplicates, so **u. seizure** is used twice.

NOTE: Terms not used: b. Malefactor; d. Miranda warnings.

Unraveling Legalese

Use simple, non-legal language, with the help of the glossary, to rewrite this case quote in the space below so that it is shorter and can be understood by a layperson without losing its meaning.

Exercise:

The parties must disclose the plea agreement in open court when the plea is offered, unless the court for good cause allows the parties to disclose the pleas agreement in camera.

Answer:

The prosecution and defense must reveal plea bargains in open court for everyone to hear, unless there is a good reason for the judge to allow it to be revealed in the privacy of his or her office.

Using Legal Language

Alphonse, high on drugs and carrying a handgun, broke into Krista's apartment one evening, unaware that Krista and her dog, Lilly, were present. Lilly lunged at the surprised Alphonse, causing him to shoot himself in the foot. Krista disarmed the bleeding Alphonse and called 911. When the police arrived, Alphonse was placed under **arrest**; that is, deprived of his liberty. He was also told about his rights, called **Miranda warnings**. The next morning, Alphonse went before the court for a **preliminary** hearing, which is also called a **probable cause** hearing. The judge set a high **bail** to assure Alphonse's return to stand trial. The district attorney presented the case to a **grand jury**, which issued an **indictment**—a formal written charge of a crime. This was followed by a court appearance called an **arraignment** at which Alphonse pleaded **not guilty**, denying that he had committed the crime. The trial that followed was governed by regulations known as **rules of criminal procedure**. The state brought the action, that is, **prosecuted**, against Alphonse who was the **defendant**. To find Alphonse guilty, the jury, that is, the **fact finder**, was required to find beyond a **reasonable doubt** that Alphonse committed the crime. At the time of sentencing, Krista was able to give a **victim's impact statement** pointing out the effect the crime had on her life. Alphonse was given a **mandatory** sentence—one that is fixed with no room for discretion.

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