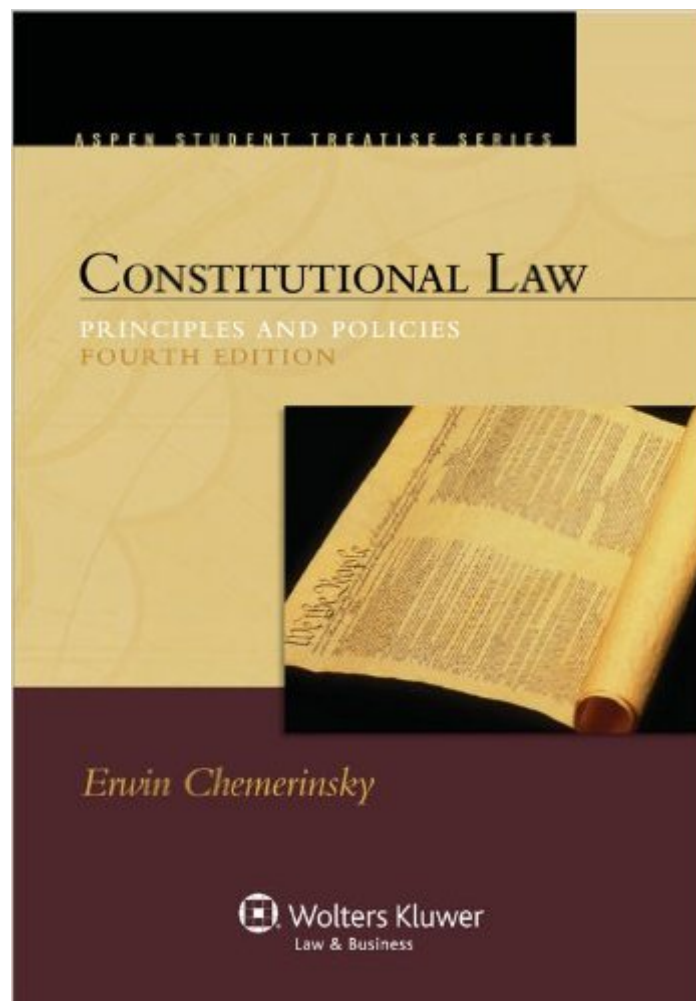


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Constitutional Law: Principles And Policies, 4th Edition (Aspen Student Treatise Series)



Synopsis

Relied on by students, professors, and practitioners, Erwin Chemerinsky's popular treatise, *Constitutional Law: Principles and Policies, Fourth Edition*, clearly states the law and identifies the underlying policy issues in each area of constitutional law. The characteristics that make this treatise so highly valued include: Thorough coverage of all areas of constitutional law, suitable for both beginning and advanced courses. Issues are presented clearly and with a neutral approach that examines all sides in constitutional law issues. Discussion not only of doctrines but of the underlying policy issues of the law. Flexible organization: the chapters can be used separately in any order. Updated throughout, the Fourth Edition: Focuses particularly on developments since the publication of the third edition, including issues involving standing, congressional power, presidential power and the war on terror, preemption, school desegregation, abortion rights and voting rights, and First Amendment issues concerning speech and religion. Includes coverage of the most recent and significant cases : *Hein v. Freedom from Religion Foundation* and its implications for taxpayer standing *Boumediene v. Bush* and *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, concerning the war on terror *Wyeth v. Levine* and *Riegel v. Medtronic* (preemption cases) *Philip Morris USA v. Williams* and the law of punitive damages *District of Columbia v. Heller* (an in-depth look at this case in a new section on the Second Amendment) *Gonzalez v. Carhart* and its importance in analyzing issues concerning abortion rights *Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd.* and the law of voting rights *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1*, on the use of race in school desegregation *Garcetti v. Ceballos* and its significance for the speech of government employees *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, *Randall v. Sorrell*, and *Wisconsin Right to Life v. FEC* (campaign finance law) *Morse v. Frederick* and student speech

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Customer Reviews

Chemerinsky has done a fine job of connecting the dots and making the ever-evolving doctrines of American Constitutional jurisprudence understandable. The major weakness with most Con law books is that in focusing on individual cases, the student will often embroil himself or herself in the minutiae of individual cases while losing sight of the bigger picture. The glaring weakness of most commercial outlines is that the pendulum swings too far in the other direction; instead of focusing on individual cases, outlines give the bigger picture without providing enough context and specific information to truly inform the reader. That being said, Chemerinsky has found the perfect balance and his work suffers from neither of the aforementioned flaws. In the words of Goldilocks, Chemerinsky's treatment of Constitutional law is "just right." Prof. Chemerinsky classifies the subject matter in this book according to general topics that any Con law student will recognize as the subject matter of a general Con law course. Yet, instead of just providing a distilled outline analysis, Chemerinsky details a case-by-case analysis under each general topical heading and describes the major points and importance of the cases in a few paragraphs. Prof. Chemerinsky's case descriptions and analysis is extremely helpful and highlights the most important and vital doctrines of the cases as it relates to the general topic being covered. These descriptions serve as a helpful supplement when actually reading the cases themselves. Moreover, Chemerinsky masterfully ties all the applicable cases together and provides his own enlightening summary of how all the case law interacts so that the reader can understand where the law stands, and where the contours and lines have been drawn.

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