

## Study Aids: Evidence

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The Law Library's collection has various study aids on numerous legal subject areas. Some study aids are referred to as hornbooks, others as nutshells. A hornbook is a single volume covering an area of law with references to cases, statutes, and secondary sources such as law review articles and *American Law Reports* annotations. Unlike a hornbook, a nutshell provides a basic overview of the legal concepts in a particular area of law with few references to cases, statutes, and secondary sources. Hornbooks and nutshells are published by West/Thomson Reuters. LexisNexis publishes the "*Understanding ...*" series and Aspen Publishers publishes the *Examples and Explanations* series of study aids. Foundation Press, an independent affiliate of West/Thomson Reuters, also publishes the *Concepts and Insights* series on various areas of the law.

Current editions of these study aids are available on Reserve. Copy 1 and Copy 2 of a study aid circulate for two hours and are restricted to use within the Law Library. Copy 3 and higher can be checked out of the Law Library for forty-eight (48) hours. Note, a fine of 50 cents is accrued for each hour that a book checked out from Reserve is overdue! Older editions of the study aids are shelved in the stacks by their call number and can be checked out from the Law Library for twenty-one days.

Even more detailed information on a legal subject area can be found in a single volume or in a multi-volume set referred to as a treatise. These treatises can be searched by author, by advanced keyword, by subject (**Evidence Law United States**) or by title using the Law Library's WebCatalog. The treatises are shelved by their call number in the Library's open stacks. Most single volume treatises can be checked out from the Law Library for twenty-one days.

The following is a list of recommended study aids in the Law Library's collection on the law of evidence:

◆ Best, Arthur, *Evidence: Examples and Explanations* (7th ed. 2009). Reserve, KF8935.Z9 B48 2009

There are chapters on relevancy, hearsay, examination and impeachment, expert testimony, privileges, authentication, the Original Writing Rule, presumptions, and judicial notice. Each discussion of the topic is followed by examples for the reader to work through along with explanations of the examples.

◆ Fenner, G. Michael, *The Hearsay Rule* (2003). Reserve, KF8969 .F46 2003

This is a detailed study aid to the hearsay rule in which the author explains its various exclusions and exceptions.

◆ Giannelli, Paul C., *Understanding Evidence* (2d ed. 2006). Reserve, KF8935 .G52 2006

This text is organized by the Federal Rules of Evidence. The topics are the procedural framework of the trial, relevancy, witnesses, real and demonstrative evidence, writings, hearsay, privileges, and substitutes for evidence. Each chapter concludes with a description of the key points discussed in the chapter.

◆ Graham, Michael H., *Federal Rules of Evidence in a Nutshell* (7th ed. 2007). Reserve, KF8935.Z9 G7 2007

The *Nutshell* is organized numerically by Rule with the author's commentary following the text of each Rule. Numerous illustrations of the Rules are given.

◆ Mueller, Christopher B. and Laird C. Kirkpatrick, *Evidence* (3d ed. 2003). Reserve, KF8935 .M836 2003

This study aid is organized by the Federal Rules of Evidence. The authors give a comprehensive treatment of the Rules pertaining to preliminary matters, judicial notice, burdens, presumptions, relevancy, privileges, witnesses, opinions, expert testimony, scientific evidence, hearsay, foundational evidence, authentication, and the Best Evidence Doctrine.

◆ Park, Roger C. et al., *Evidence Law: A Student's Guide to the Law of Evidence as Applied in American Trials* (2d ed. 2004). Reserve, KF8935 .P368 2004

Promoted by the authors as the “lawyer’s treatise designed specifically for law students,” this text makes extensive use of examples and arguments as spoken by trial lawyers to give the law student reader an understanding of the law of evidence in action. Topics in this hornbook include presenting evidence at trial, procedures for offering and opposing evidence at trial, objections to the form of the question or answer, burdens and presumptions, relevancy and its limits, competency, the hearsay rule and its exceptions, evidentiary privileges, impeachment and rehabilitation of witnesses, opinion evidence, expert testimony, exhibits, and appellate review of rulings on objections.

◆ Rothstein, Paul F. et al., *Evidence in a Nutshell* (5th ed. 2007). Reserve, KF8935.Z9 R6 2007

Among the various topics discussed are relevancy, privileges, witnesses, and hearsay. The order in which the topics are addressed follows the Federal Rules of Evidence.

### **Locating the text of the Rules:**

The annotated Rules are available on Westlaw in the **US-RULES** database. The path on LexisNexis is **Legal > Federal Legal - U.S. > USCS - Federal Rules Annotated**.

The Federal Rules of Evidence along with the Advisory Committee Notes are published annually by Thomson/West in two softbound books entitled *Federal Civil Judicial Procedure and Rules* (KF8816 .A193 2009) and *Federal Criminal Code and Rules* (KF9606.99 .D567 2009). The current editions are located on Reserve while the older editions are shelved in the stacks.

### **Electronic Study Aid: CALI**

In addition to the print study aids, CALI (Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction) provides electronic access to interactive lessons on evidence among other subjects. All incoming first-year students receive a CALI CD in their orientation packet. Lessons are also available via the CALI website at **www.cali.org**. When signing up for access at the CALI website, you will need to obtain the law school’s authorization code from a reference librarian.

To view an annotated listing of the CALI lessons available for evidence, select “Evidence” under the heading “CALI Topics.”