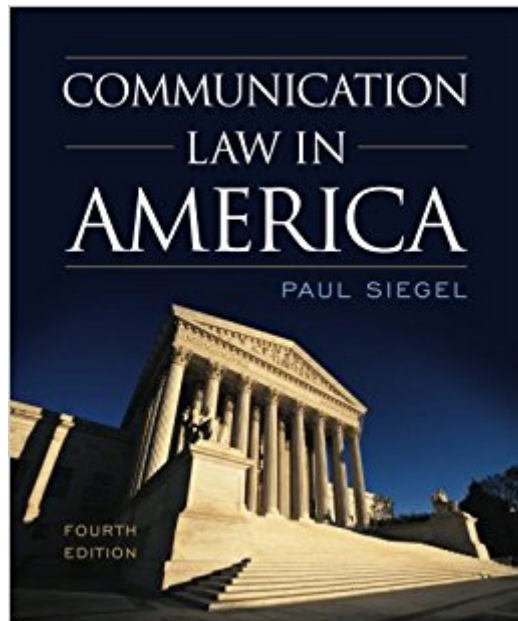




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# Communication Law In America



## Synopsis

Communication Law in America is a comprehensive, easy-to-follow overview of the complicated ways in which U.S. law determines who may say what to (and about) whom. It covers the usual content—libel, invasion of privacy, copyright and trademark, access to government information, advertising, electronic media—all the while giving readers a sense of how and why this country has come to weigh freedom of speech above competing freedoms far more often than in other Western democracies. This fourth edition of the well-received text boasts over 300 new citations, including discussion of a dozen U. S. Supreme Court decisions handed down since the previous edition. The nearly 200 still photos and over 80 videos on the author-maintained website are generally not images of litigants but of the actual artifacts (TV and movie scenes, advertisements, news reports) that led to the law suits—they have always represented dramatic added value to students and professors alike. The new edition includes 35 new visual elements, including 20 videos. The text also offers a new section on how the First Amendment applies to special populations, including students, government employees in general, and the military in particular.

## Book Information

Paperback: 540 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; 4 edition (March 27, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442226226

ISBN-13: 978-1442226227

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 1.4 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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## Customer Reviews

Siegel's fourth edition keeps up with the dizzying pace of change in communication technology without sacrificing any of the crucial attention to age-old principles and basic law. And it's all delivered in Siegel's trademark writing style, which brings a light touch to subjects that are often heavy. And there's more. The author's endless Ebay

forays have resulted in a website boasting scores of videos from the court cases. Paired with a reliable LCD projector, the book teaches itself. (Robert Jensen, Director of the Senior Fellows Honors Program of the College of Communication, University of Texas at Austin) One could search the Internet for weeks and fail to amass the knowledge about communication law that is contained in this one book. Paul Siegel has managed to condense centuries of communication law in a meaningful way for citizens to easily reference. If this book is read studiously, our democracy will certainly be stronger. (Kevin A. Johnson, Director of Research, Center for First Amendment Studies, California State University, Long Beach) This book does an excellent job of providing the historical and theoretical contexts for free speech and press, and uses those contexts to illustrate the most contemporary of examples, from Edward Snowden to Tom Cruise's latest litigation, from Facebook to the aftermath of the "wardrobe malfunction." The wealth of online resources at [www.paulsiegelcommmlaw.com](http://www.paulsiegelcommmlaw.com) extends the text for students and faculty, creating an interactive experience. (Mel Netzhammer, Washington State University, Vancouver (Chancellor)) Siegel delivers a detailed blueprint that reveals the underpinnings of U.S. communication law. He draws an intricate depiction of the mosaic of cases and statutes that shape the flow of information and expression. This volume will serve as a valuable tool for novices and experts alike. (Jonathan Zittrain, Professor of Law and Professor of Computer Science; Co-founder of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University) Siegel offers a perspective that makes sense for our field. This edition's updates couldn't be more current, and it's all made easier with Siegel's hallmark pedagogical aides. The visuals, always a strength in previous editions, are updated and stronger than ever. (John Vivian, Winona State University (author of *The Media of Mass Communication*)) This is one of the most if not the most comprehensive treatments of mass communication law available today for undergraduate students. It constitutes in some ways a mini-law school course. Up-to-date, informative, and thought-provoking. (Martin D. Sommers, J. D; Northern Arizona University)

Paul Siegel is professor of communication at the University of Hartford. He has been teaching course work in media law for over 30 years at American University, Catholic University, Gallaudet University, George Mason University, Illinois State University, Keene State College, Tulane University, the University of Connecticut, the University of Missouri, and the University of North Carolina. He has also published dozens of book chapters and law review and communication journal articles on various subjects related to communication law. Siegel was the founding executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and Western Missouri.

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