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Understanding Tree Law: A Handbook For Practioners





Synopsis

A treatise that is both informative and entertaining, Understanding Tree Law is the first in-depth treatment of this often contentious and confusing area of law. Written by the country's leading expert in the litigation and mediation of tree and neighbor disputes, this handbook provides practitioners with a comprehensive explanation of all aspects of tree law, including view obstructions, damage from falling trees and limbs, nuisance from hazards, debris and roots, injury from tree failures, ownership versus encroachment, trespass and wrongful cutting of trees, and appraisal of trees that have been damaged or removed. Because it's never about the trees, the author reveals an insider's perspective on tips and strategies for resolving clients' matters by identifying, understanding, and defusing the psychological underpinnings that often plague these disputes. Beyond providing black letter law, Understanding Tree Law offers a unique approach toward problem solving, starting with the proposition that attorneys are first and foremost "counselors at law." This socially responsible philosophy reminds us that law, like medicine, can and should be a healing profession. About the Author Barri Kaplan Bonapart is a veteran attorney considered to be one of the nation's foremost experts in tree law. In addition to her speaking engagements throughout the country and numerous published articles related to this contentious area of the law, she has been a featured guest on various television and radio programs. Although she is recognized as a formidable advocate and accomplished trial attorney, Ms. Bonapart is most passionate about her role as peacemaker. To that end, she is a respected mediator and arbitrator, specializing in helping parties resolve a wide variety of emotionally charged disputes. For more information, please see her ADR web site and her legal web site.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great book. I'm an arborist and should know more about this subject. So far what I've read is really interesting and informative. For example, I have never heard the term 'Spite fence'. What is a spite fence? Exactly what it sounds like, a fence or hedge maliciously erected. To read the entire definition, get the book. It's cash well spent. The authors approach throughout is cooperative not contentious. This may seem like an afterthought but keeping one's head in tense situations bares repeating and may even require practice for some. I highly recommend this publication.

A well-written, up to date, and understandable explanation of this interesting subject.

More for those who are looking to mediate cases rather then focusing on the case law in various cases. Seems to have a left coast perspective.

Excellent book. I am an attorney in Southern California and I have been representing clients in neighbor vs. neighbor disputes for over 23 years. I have handled lots of tree related cases. Everyone in the "tree law" business knows Barri Bonapart is the top legal expert. Her new book provides an excellent overview of the legal technical for handling tree related disputes , but more importantly it provides her sound opinions and philosophy on how attorneys should approach most neighbor vs. neighbor disputes. Bonapart nails it with her statement "It is Never About the Trees" and she provides the needed reminder for over-aggressive lawyers that attorneys are also supposed to be "counselors" and that the scorched earth litigation attitude is fundamentally opposed to most client's best interest in most tree related matters.

We own a tree service and deal with neighbor/tree issues on a weekly basis. Barri's book provided some clear understanding of the law on just about every issue we have encountered, which will aid us in assisting our clients. Prehaps the best information in the book is in the introducation as Barri advocates for mediation rather than litigation and urging pratcioners to help their clients see "there are two sides to every story". Even though the book is written primarily to a lawyer audience, and I got lost in some of the legalese I found enough to be useful for the every day certified arborist dealing with problem trees and their owners.

This book is an excellent resource. It explains the legal process regarding tree and neighbor disputes clearly and in language that is understable to attorneys and non-attorneys. In addition to providing necessary legal authority, it gives useful suggestions on how to implement problem-solving in the real world.

This book not only reveals crucial info about tree law, but teaches incredibly helpful communication skills that work in any situation.

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