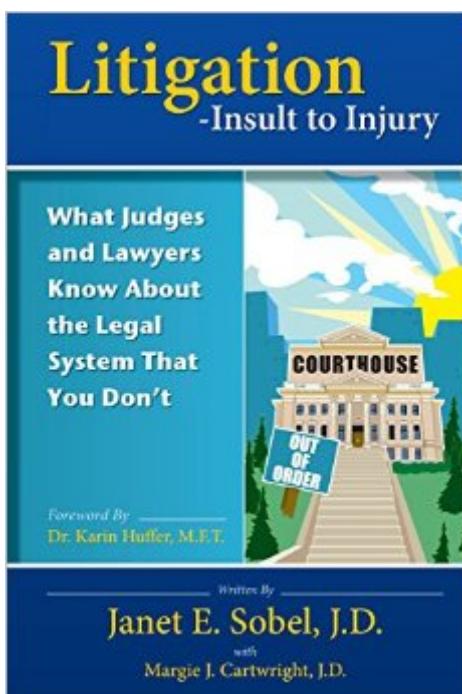


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Litigation - Insult To Injury: What Judges And Lawyers Know About The Legal System That You Don't



Synopsis

This engaging, easy to read book explains what really happens inside a civil dispute. The rules and procedures that people encounter are only a part of what goes on. Everyone involved in a lawsuit is helped by understanding the hidden traps that can undermine and destroy good claims and defenses. "Justice" is the goal of all civil litigants, but only the wise can hope for victory. And given the devastating outcomes that can result from filing a lawsuit, this book could be a litigant's only hope for a good ending. This book will both inform and entertain the following groups of people who touch and need the legal system: litigants (with or without attorneys), lawyers (especially new ones, corporate counsel, and non-litigators), mediators, law students, college students deciding on careers, small business owners, mental health professionals, insurance adjusters, and anyone who wants to understand our civil court system. No one who is contemplating a lawsuit should make that decision without reading this book. The wisdom inside this book is worth thousands of dollars in legal advice. With this book you can learn ways to find a good lawyer, make smart decisions along the road towards trial, get important tips on representing yourself in the lawsuit, be a better mediator, lawyer, and client, protect your business from disputes and claims, improve your understanding of the pressures of litigation, and increase settlement opportunities when dealing with a claim. Here is the real truth behind the civil court system, insights that can give you an equal footing with those who know what really goes on. Reader reviews from clients, lawyers, mediators, experts, students, and former judges say: "This work offers rare insight into the lawyering process for laymen as well as practicing lawyers." - Author, former Federal Judge "For mediators who are not lawyers, this book will give them valuable insights to use in guiding the mediation participants to a successful settlement." - California Lawyer and Mediator "Anyone considering pursuing a civil action and even new litigators would be well-served to read this book from cover to cover. Janet Sobel [gives] helpful explanations of the tough decisions that need to be made in civil litigation and the impact that they can have on the ultimate result and bottom line." - California Lawyer "Janet Sobel has created an incredible resource for anyone trapped in the legal system, people trying to find both justice and peace." - California Consultant "All in-house attorneys should be familiar with this book as it is an invaluable resource for learning about what to expect (and not expect) from the world of litigation." - In-house Counsel for a California Company "This book is a must read for anyone pondering the decision to go to law school and should be required reading for all law students to gain understanding of the world into which they are embarking and to give them empathy for their clients." - California Lawyer "This book shares experiences that would take years of trial and error to master and is a great resource

for law students to learn of the potential pitfalls and mistakes. Her work is an easy and enjoyable read.â • - California Law Student â œAs an expert who is often hired to form opinions in lawsuits, I can wholeheartedly recommend Ms. Sobelâ ™s book for anyone who is a forensic expert or thinking of being one.â • - California Real Estate Professional â œThe book is a gift to every reader. Everyone will benefit from it in a various ways. No one should enter into a lawsuit without reading it first.â • - California Health Educator â œ[This] information and advice . . . can guard against the types of decisions we layman can make when we have no idea of what we are up against.â • - California Consumer

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Customer Reviews

Janet Sobel, J.D. has written a book that will serve the needs of Joe Plumber and other professionals alike. It is understandable and makes sense. I must admit that though I am a professional therapist, the law has seemed full of unknowns, and that intimidated me. The details seem overwhelming. But Janet has created a book that I can understand. The logical progression of topics helps you gain awareness of the dangers which you can avoid and the ones you can't be guaranteed to avoid. It was very interesting to read in the first chapter that most lawyers don't really know the ethics of the field. So it is even more important that law clients know the ethics and see if their lawyers know it, too. Janet gives practical questions to ask lawyers before deciding to hire them for your project, or whether you even should hire a lawyer. She guides you in the agreement you have with your lawyer, and key points to keep in mind for all contracts. I firmly believe that every lawyer should read this book, especially new lawyers, or people interested in going into law. It helps to have your eyes wide open. Experienced lawyers will also learn from her intelligent synthesis

based on her experience. Others who should read this book include all who have professional liability insurance, all who contemplate bringing a lawsuit against anyone (the results are not guaranteed no matter how good your case appears to be), and all who believe in justice. Janet points out that if less people tax the legal system, and solve problems out of court (through alternative dispute resolution methods), the better the chance the legal system has of working properly, as it was ideally intended. Janet Sobel conveys solid ethics herself.

I am a new attorney, who has also been through several civil cases as a client, and pro-se. I have been in limited and unlimited civil cases. As Attorney Sobel says in her disclaimer at the beginning of the book, this book is especially meant for people involved in civil (not criminal) cases. To many people's surprise, the insurance industry, and some aspects of the legal industry, have made it financially unsustainable for most "David versus Goliath" attorneys to take cases solely for their merits. Many ordinary individuals Especially if you are trying to find an attorney, or trying to proceed pro-se, I highly recommend Janet Sobel's book. Her chapter 9, "Litigation Will Cost Me HOW Much?" will help many potential litigants understand why many attorneys nowadays require clients to pay at least a \$5,000-\$50,000 retainer agreement and rarely take cases on contingency, or for the sake of stopping injustice. As an attorney, there are many people I'd like to help, but most of them cannot afford to pay enough to cover my office costs (there's more to it than just the rent), much less enough so I can feed myself and my family. How can there be so much injustice, and so many people looking for attorneys, but so many attorneys looking for work? As a leader of the "Counselor At Law" movement, Janet has created a new (or revised an old) area of practice, which provides an important opportunity for both attorneys and potential clients. If you read this book, you may be able to use it to either better represent yourself, or find a limited scope attorney who will not replace you as attorney of record on your case, but will work as a "Counselor At Law" to help you better understand your legal options, and proceed accordingly.

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