

Preface to the Third Edition

When writing a textbook on a general subject such as the US legal system, the temptation to include additional topics and aspects in each new edition is large. I have tried hard to resist this temptation and to focus instead on rewriting and expanding the already existing chapters and adding a few selected subchapters. In doing so, I have updated and increased a large part of the book and have added a variety of new terms and concepts. Carrying out the express wish of my students, a complete German-English vocabulary list has been added to the already existing English-German one.

Students as well as teachers who have been using the book in class should find the revised edition more readable and more focused. Naturally, my main audience remains law students. I hope that they will find this new edition both inspirational and user-friendly.

Let me thank them for having provided me with suggestions and corrections over the past seven years.