Gilbert Law Summaries: Torts
Synopsis

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Book Information

Paperback: 515 pages
Publisher: BarBri Group; 23 edition (January 1, 2002)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0159007550
Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 8.2 x 10.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds
Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (14 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

As context for the following, please bear in mind that I am neither a lawyer nor a law student. I am an arbitrator, doing what is called court-annexed arbitration, which is notably different from commercial arbitration and is more like what I might call junior judging. My interest in this book was in boosting my understanding of the basics of tort law. Most of the cases I hear sound in contract law and I never hear à œbigà • or complex tort claims. What I needed was to be sure of the principles of tort. My approach was to undertake a study more in depth than I would ever need, hoping to extract from my study a thorough understanding of the essential principles. This book I believe is serving my purpose. So far as I can tell, it focuses the doctrines of tort law well and conveys accurately the state of the law. The book has, however, a signal shortcoming. In reading, I search out and read many if not most of the opinions that are cited in the text as illustrations. I regret
to note that a significant minority of the opinions in the cited cases do not in fact illustrate the point of law they are cited for. This doesn’t make the point of law wrong or irrelevant, but it is annoying not to have the promised illustration. Furthermore, the case citations are disproportionately from California courts. This seems to me problematic because California jurisprudence is often at variance with doctrine in many other states. An outlier is not good illustration for the generality. A third shortcoming is that several of the names of the cited cases are misspelled, or the index is wrong. I have been using the internet to search out the cases. A misspelling is a nuisance that slows down my study.

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