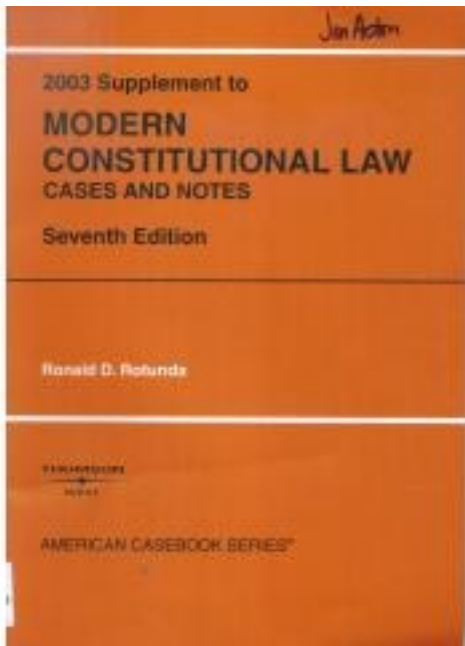


2003 supplement to modern constitutional law cases and notes



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This supplement to Modern Constitutional Law includes only the more significant United States Supreme Court cases since October, 2002 --the cutoff date for the main volume--through June 26, 2003. As in the main volume, I have sought to keep the number of excerpted cases to a minimum rather than merely chronicle the work of the Court. The

teacher who has additional hours may, of course, always expand the focus and coverage by adding his or her supplemental materials. Future cumulative supplements will also include only those new developments of particular importance.

It is no simple task to read and edit promptly, each term, the most recent cases of the U.S. Supreme Court, and then prepare the final product for speedy publication. More recently, the use of computers, network links, Westlaw, and high speed modems have made that task a lot easier. I can download a case about an hour after the Supreme Court releases it. The entire process is amazing and, in the not too distant past, would be considered akin to magic. Not too long ago, I used to lump computers together with telephones as the devil's invention. Now, they are becoming more friendly. Of course, the modern technology means that old dogs like me have to learn new tricks. Computers do not always work; they seem to sense fear and I have learned that I must approach them with both bravado and braggadocio.

I need more than computers to assist me, so I wish to express my sincere thanks to Ms. Jane Barton, my secretary and to Nathan Wildermann, GMU class of 2004 for their assistance in preparing the manuscript. I also thank the law school and Dean Mark Grady for their research support. At this moment, as I sit in the office, looking out my window at the Washington Monument, I recall that Bismarck is supposed to have said that laws are like sausages--one should not see how they are made. As tastes change and less filler is added to the making of sausage, some people fear that more is being added to the making of laws. Well, I have seen sausage being made (for two summers, when I worked my way through college by working the graveyard shift at a meat packing plant), and I have

seen the Court make law. It is not like making sausage. Instead, our system of Constitutional liberties, protected by our state and federal courts, have made us the envy of the world. The newly emerging democracies seek to emulate our legal system, and our greatest export has become our Bill of Rights.

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