Lawsuits in a Market Economy: The Evolution of Civil Litigation


This book tackles a very ambitious topic - the way civil litigation works in contemporary America and how it got to be that way - and does it in a very short amount of time. Professor Yeazell, a Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Los Angeles, examines the legal and economic dynamics involved in contemporary litigation and seeks to explain how the civil litigation system got to where it is and where it might go from here. The book explores some of the commonly-held myths about civil litigation and tries to show the reality of the majority of civil cases filed each year in this country. Although written for the non-lawyer, this book has a wealth of information relevant to lawyers in it and is written in an easily accessible style with very little legalese or jargon.

This book was selected by Professor Jan Fleckenstein. Professor Fleckenstein’s biography on the Syracuse University College of Law’s website tells us that she is the Director of the Law Library and an Associate Teaching Professor of Law on the College of Law’s faculty. Professor Fleckenstein has a B.A. degree from LeMoyne College, and her M.L.S., M.S./IRM, and J.D. degrees from Syracuse University.

A list of focus questions designed to help you get the most out of “Lawsuits in a Market Economy” is available as a separate document.