



# Whose Monet?: An Introduction to the American Legal System (Introduction to Law Series)

*By Professor John Humbach*

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## **Whose Monet?: An Introduction to the American Legal System (Introduction to Law Series)** By Professor John Humbach

This extraordinary paperback provides a highly accessible and appealing orientation to the American legal system and presents basic concepts of civil litigation to first-year law students. **Whose Monet? An Introduction to the American Legal System** focuses on a lengthy dispute over the ownership of a painting as a vehicle for introducing students to the basic law school tasks of reading analytically, understanding legal materials, and working with the common law.

**The author and his colleagues have used these materials successfully in their classrooms for many years, ensuring their teachability and effectiveness:**

- Whose Monet? can be used as primary course material in orientation courses or seminars, as well as collateral reading for in-semester Legal Process or Civil Procedure courses
- The organization is logical and straightforward and the accessible writing style—lucid, descriptive, and conversational—is ideal for incoming students
- The major events in a lawsuit are considered, and the text sheds light on how the law is applied in a civil dispute, introducing common law and statutory law and the various courts and their interrelationship (trial/appellate, state/federal)
- The author draws on judicial opinions, litigation papers, transcripts, and selections from commentators and various jurisprudential sources, thereby exposing the first-year student to as broad a spectrum of materials as possible
- Telling the story of a real lawsuit (DeWeerth v. Baldinger)—from client intake through trial and various appeals—draws students into the legal process by means of an engaging narrative and makes for a truly enjoying teaching experience for professors
- The lawyer's role is examined in both its functional and moral dimensions: What do lawyers do? What does society legitimately expect lawyers to do?
- This book is suitable for both classroom and stand-alone assigned reading

**Professor Humbach, with over 30 years of experience teaching and writing articles and instruction programs for first-year property students, includes a**

**separate Teacher's Manual. Drawing upon his own classroom experience with these materials, he:**

- suggests "learning objectives" for each chapter
- offers different teaching approaches
- provides answers to questions in the book
- suggests sample syllabi

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