

Language and the Law

Looks at the common areas of interaction between linguistics and the legal process 'This book is the product of a distinguished linguist's many years of fruitful thinking about important areas in both language and the law.' Professor Roger W. Shuy, from the Foreword. Language and the Law looks at some common areas of interaction between linguistics and the legal process. Each chapter pairs a problem in language with a corresponding issue in law. Sanford Schane thoroughly examines each topic both from a legal point of view and a linguistic perspective, using excerpts from cases where judges in their decisions have had to confront particular legal issues having linguistic consequences. The book requires no previous background in law or linguistics, as all concepts and notions from the two fields are explained in a non-technical manner. This fascinating introduction to the intersection of language and law will be of interest to professionals from both fields as well as to students and general readers encountering this interdisciplinary area for the first time.

This comprehensive introduction to Language and the Law looks at the common areas of interaction between linguistics and the legal process. Each chapter presents a language issue or problem relevant to the law. This is then examined using excerpts from cases where judges in their decisions have had to confront that particular issue. Professor Schane considers each issue both from the legal point of view and from a linguistic point of view, to show how each are relevant to each other. Issues covered include: * Ambiguity * Vagueness * Metaphor * Legal fiction * Presuppositions * Leading questions * Legal hearsay The book requires no previous legal or linguistic background, and all concepts and notions from the two fields are explained in a non-technical manner. This fascinating introduction to Language and the Law will be of interest to students and academics encountering this area for the first time. Student friendly features include: exercises, suggestions for further reading, glossary and excerpts from relevant cases.



57,10 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780826488299

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-8264-8829-9

Verlag: Bloomsbury 3PL

Erscheinungstermin: 09.10.2006

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2006

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 371 g

Seiten: 224

Format (B x H): 156 x 234 mm

