

Doctors and the Law: Defendants and Expert Witnesses

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DOCTORS AND THE LAW

DEFENDANTS AND EXPERT WITNESSES



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Hiller B. Zobel, Stephen N. Rous M.D. : Doctors and the Law: Defendants and Expert Witnesses before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Doctors and the Law: Defendants and Expert Witnesses:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. good basic reviewBy brian beirneThis book, written by a judge and a urologist, is a good basic review of the judicial system as it may be encountered by a physician. It is divided into two parts, first the doctor as defendant. Each chapter deals with a different aspect of the process of a lawsuit. The best

being the third, a suit is not a shroud. The second half of the book deals with doctors as expert witnesses. This book is a good introduction to the legal process and would be of most benefit to medical students and residents. The one downside is it is not more case oriented with specific examples. The writing is clear, concise, and very readable.

In *Doctors and the Law* an experienced judge who has seen many physicians in court has joined with a physician who knows about courts from the physicians point of view, to give us what appears to be the forensic Mercks Manual. My advice to physicians is dont leave for court without it. Jacob A. Stein, former president, District of Columbia Bar Malpractice litigation is now a fact of medical life. Short of three years of law school, how is a doctor to know what to do when he or she is sued or called as an expert witness? This comprehensive guide has the answers. From the heart-stopping delivery of the first legal document to the final resolution of the case, the authors offer sound advice, valuable dos and donts, and reassuring insights. For the physician who wishes to avoid an occurrence, or recurrence, of malpractice litigation, they supply preventive medicine. For the doctor who is being sued or serving as an expert witness, they cover relationships with the insurance company, the lawyer, and the plaintiffs lawyer; depositions and pretrial motions; the trial, including effective testimony and what to expect in cross-examination; out-of-court settlements; and appeals. Most of all, they provide an approach that will allow physicians to deal intelligently with the legal process.

From Publishers Weekly With exemplary clarity and objectivity, Massachusetts Supreme Court justice Zobel (*Boston Massacre*) and Rous (*The Prostate Book*) offer valuable advice to doctors who are called as trial witnesses, as medical experts, or as defendants in career-threatening malpractice suits. Focusing primarily on the last, they help to prepare doctors for the practical aspects of the ordeal, and also the emotional ones (typically fear and anger). They do so by explaining the judicial point of view, legal procedures, the roles of opining physicians, lawyer-insurance company relationships and more. Finally, Zobel and Rous review in detail the "anatomy of a trial," from jury selection to verdict to possible appeal. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Stephen N. Rous is professor of surgery (urology) at Dartmouth Medical School and chief of urology at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Vermont. He lives in New Hampshire.