
“The Civil Law Manual will help train attorneys across the country on all aspects of litigation for protection orders, including those who are new to this area of practice or intend to work on such cases in their pro bono capacity. From pre-trial issues like discovery, to samples of filings and intake forms, this manual provides a comprehensive overview that will result in high-quality representation on cases that are complex, multi-dimensional, and often time sensitive.”

-- Protima Pandey, Managing Attorney, Bay Area Legal Aid

“The Civil Law Manual is the first guide to read when representing survivors of intimate partner abuse in civil protection order hearings. The Manual walks the practitioner through concerns both obscure and common. The topics range from the Indian Child Welfare Act, through discovery in civil protection hearings and self-care. Whether you are a pro bono attorney or a veteran advocate, this Manual needs to be on your desk.”

-- Margaret Drew, Associate Professor of Law, University of Massachusetts School of Law

The Civil Law Manual: Protection Orders and Family Law Cases, 4th Edition, the long-awaited update of the popular resource manual, is designed to guide the victim’s attorney through the process of representing domestic violence victims in either protection order or family law cases. The Fourth Edition includes updated references and sample documents, an expanded discussion of assessing client needs to promote safe and effective legal outcomes, and re-designed layout and chapter division.

Chapters Include:

- Overview of domestic violence, civil protection orders, & family law cases
- Client counseling, intake and referral
- Pre-trial matters
- Trying the case
- Post-trial issues
- Appendices including sample documents and pleadings, evidentiary concerns and other practical resources

The Civil Law Manual is intended to be useful to both beginning and experienced attorneys who are interested in gaining a better understanding of how domestic violence affects their clients’ cases, and in developing the skills necessary to effectively and safely represent victims. It offers both techniques and tools to enhance the organization, skill, and strategy an attorney may use when approaching a domestic violence case. The format is loose-leaf so that attorneys can both customize the resource by adding materials of their own or remove pages from the manual to take with them to court.

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