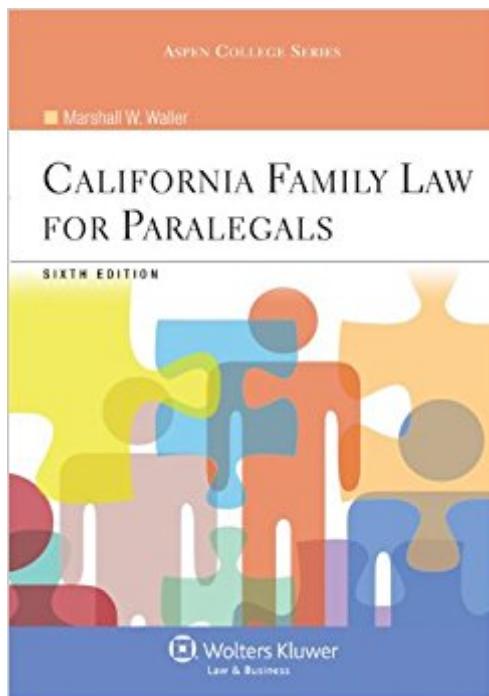


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# California Family Law For Paralegals, Sixth Edition (Aspen College)



## Synopsis

Focused squarely on the California Family Code, California Family Law for Paralegals integrates statutory law and judicial interpretation into a cohesive general discussion of all aspects of the state's family law. Its practical, straightforward approach is designed to teach the basics to paralegal students, and powerful pedagogy makes it stand apart from most books on California Law. Chapter Overviews and Summaries, exercises, Key Terms, and a glossary combine with examples of all the key Judicial Council forms used in the practice of family law in California. Comprehensive coverage explores all the key topics and developments in this constantly evolving area of the law. Thoroughly updated, the revised Sixth Edition reflects important changes in the law, with new cases and statutes, including status of California State Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage. As a result, all forms have been completely updated. A new discussion advises how technology can make family law practice more effective. Hallmark features of California Family Law for Paralegals: Focused on the California Family Code integrates statutory law and judicial interpretation cohesive discussion of all aspects of family law Practical, straightforward approach designed to teach the basics Includes examples of all key Judicial Council forms used in California family law Powerful pedagogy surpasses most books on California law Chapter Overviews Chapter Summaries exercises Key Terms glossary Comprehensive coverage of all key topics and developments Thoroughly updated, the revised Sixth Edition: Reflects changes in the law new cases and statutes status of California State Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage Forms completely updated. New discussion of technology to make family law practice more effective

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have been a family law paralegal for over 20 years and purchased this book through for use in my Family Law class towards my paralegal certification. The information contained in it is factually correct as far as how family law (usually) works in California, and some of the precedent setting cases used. But do not purchase this book thinking you will be able to file a case by using it, or that you will use it in your profession for reference, or as a manual. I have found it useless for these things. Because family law is so complex, the information felt very convoluted, even to someone with my experience. Our instructor had to spend a lot of time putting it all together for everyone so they could understand it. My classmates who were not paralegals told me they found it more difficult to follow than our criminal law books.

This textbook California Family Law for Paralegals is an A-OK book. The book is essentially for students and teaches the basics of Family Law with an emphasis on dissolution and child custody. **POSITIVES:** The book is very comprehensive in the fact that it both explains rules and laws in the author's own words and also via verbatim text of code/statutes. Another nice thing the author does is explain the history of certain codes so that the reader gets a better idea on how the law/society has evolved over the past decades. There are example Family Law-forms found throughout the pages of the book. Believe it or not, a lot of Family Law actions merely require a ton of paperwork to complete the action; so these example-forms are very useful for the uninitiated. **NEUTRAL:** Some minor points of law are outdated. An example would be the exact requirements needed for a Summary Dissolution to be applicable. This issue is "neutral" because it's NORMAL for laws to get updated; it's up to the competent researcher to Shepardize their authorities. **NEGATIVES:** Every once in awhile, the author will refer to a Figure (i.e. visual) so that the reader may receive a mental image of the author's words; but then the Figure will be completely absent. Thank you, copy editor! The author tends to restate the same point over and over and over and over again on certain topics in such a way that it doesn't feel like they were trying to "drive the point home (e.g. teach via repetition)," but that they were simply "restating things to make the book become longer (i.e. filler)." Not that great and not really negative, this book will teach you a good overview on the meat-and-potatoes of Family Law. But as with anything, academic experience is useless without real-world experience. If you want true understanding, hopefully you get out and do some work to complement this reading.

I was surprised at how much incorrect information was in this textbook. I bought this for a college level family law course in January 2016 and the book had many inaccuracies. After having to correct the book numerous times in just the first month, the professor chose to no longer use the material. It turned out to be a waste of money - money that students don't have an abundance of in the first place. It was very frustrating so I advise any future students who may be assigned this particular text to challenge your school first before you buy it. Ask the publisher to update the material since many of the facts are outdated and incorrect. They need to publish a more current version with the newer laws and pull this one from circulation.

Well, I have read the first chapter and I don't think it's very well written. First off, topics are covered, then author goes on to something else, then back to the prior topic. Makes note taking a nightmare. Also, not clearly written, nor up to date. (Municipal court? Those went away in 1998!). Explanations are quite confusing, and apparently I am not the only one who thinks so, since who ever had this book before me had question marks all over. It's one thing if you HAVE to get it for a class, but if it is just for your own edification, choose something else.

Worst book ever to read about Family Law, especially in California. I do not recommend it. My attorney professor pointed out so many mistakes that we stopped using the book after the first chapter. Forms are not up-to-date and no explanations on how they are to be completed. Lots of generalizations. The examples make it seem like there is only one way to get spousal/child support. In fact there are several ways but only two or three obvious methods, which were important but not discussed. I would rather buy the code books than read this book. Very dry reading.

THE BOOK'S AUTHOR SAYS THAT PARALEGALS ARE NOT GOVERNED BY ANY BUSINESS CODE. WELL, yes THEY ARE, AND ANYONE CAN LOOK IT UP. BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL CODE 6450-6456 GOVERNS WHAT PARALEGALS CAN AND CANNOT DO. AS WELL WHO CAN HAVE THE HONOR OF NAMING THEMSELVES A PARALEGAL AND WHO CANT. PARALEGALS WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF ATTORNEYS AND THOSE THAT CALL THEMSELVES PARALEGALS AND DONT WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF ATTORNEYS ARE NOT PARALEGALS, THEY ARE DOCUMENT PREPARERS OR OTHER SIMILAR NAMES. AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK, PLEASE REVISE YOUR RESOURCES BEFORE YOU PRINT ANOTHER TEXT BOOK.

The book is not well written which makes it useless to study for exams.

This is an excellent book in both content and method of production. A true high quality paperback, has the reading style and production of a high quality textbook. I would try to get it used (as I did) If I paid more than \$35 I may not be so motivated....

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