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I have written, co-authored, or co-edited some twenty-nine books, and these volumes are my eleventh book-length work on this subject. With each successive book, I become more aware how much I owe to many benefactors.

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I have appreciated the willingness of the leaders of my law schools to support very long-term research. I note that these volumes build upon five decades of that research. Those books originally began publication life in a work published in 1987 by Warren Gorham & Lamont and continued through editions under the Butterworths label. It is symbolic of the continued growth of the law that this edition approximately quadruples the size of the first edition. CCH/Wolters Kluwer expanded the work in editions published in 2001 and 2010. I have been especially grateful for the wise guidance of Pam Maloney, managing editor for Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, for her implementation of the process that has brought into print the sixth edition in 2013, as well as its immediate predecessor.

Scholars do not move very far without the fuel provided by libraries. I appreciate very much the help I have received from George Pike, Jim McMasters, Chris...

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I mention in the Introduction the controversy that has surrounded this subject
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comment from the senators who invited me, but their invitations always guaran-
teed a respectful audience. These occasions have advanced my knowledge of the
subject and have further sensitized me to its political complexity. Since judge-
made law is at some level politics—Tocqueville’s observation that major American
issues tend to wind up in court has the corollary that disputed questions of
substantive law sometimes wind up before legislatures—these experiences have
contributed to my scholarship. They also have confirmed me in the belief that our
democracy is a pretty wonderful institution. I found myself moved to say to
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I was discussing the law with United States senators. That is no small privilege,
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