

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 (class 19 of 30!!)
Election Day!!

Today:

- Sources of Law!
- Guest speaker Vanella Douglas!
- **VOTE!!**

For Th. Nov. 10:

- Read textbook ch. 5, pages listed on OL!
- By 8am, answer one of the ch. 5 questions listed on OL, in a reply to my post!
- By 8am, read/watch/listen to a news source about today's election, and write a short summary and response in a reply to my post!
- Attend class to receive a prize! ☺

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Sources of law!

Law = body of rules created and enforced by a government.
Sources = where we find them; where they come from!!

Primary vs. Secondary Sources

Primary source = "The Law"

Secondary source = "About the Law"

Primary sources = "The Law" → 4 main types:

- Constitutions (constitutional law)
- Statutes (statutory law)
- Administrative law
- Common law (or case law)

Constitution = document that establishes:

(a) legal structure of government

➤ *such as* a President, Congress, court system, etc. *and*

(b) fundamental principles of how government operates, and citizens' conduct

➤ including their *rights!*

**Highest law of that state or nation!

**Includes amendments → *such as the Bill of Rights!* (first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution)

Statutes = written laws created by a legislative body—*such as:*

- federal Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and Voting Rights Act → by *U.S. Congress*
- New York Bail Reform Law, C.P.L.R.! → by *N.Y.S. Legislature*

Administrative law = rules, orders, decisions of administrative agencies

- *such as* U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), N.Y.S. Dep't of Labor
- *also includes* Executive Orders by Presidents and Governors

Common law = law set forth in decisions made by judges in cases that come before courts

- a/k/a "case law"
- *such as* Sussman v. Grado!

Secondary sources = "About the Law"

- books and articles that summarize, interpret, or index (help you find) the law
- helpful in researching and understanding primary sources

Examples:

- legal encyclopedia = compilation of summaries of legal rules on various topics
- digest = compilation of short summaries of court decisions
- annotations = brief summaries of cases and statutes and how they are interpreted and applied