Privacy Law Fundamentals

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An IAPP Publication
ABOUT PRIVACY LAW FUNDAMENTALS

“Concise, well-organized, and masterfully detailed, Privacy Law Fundamentals is the authoritative and most accessible reference for privacy practitioners looking for quick, accurately distilled, and current content from two of the most preeminent scholars in the field.”

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– Christopher Wolf, Hogan Lovells

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– Nuala O’Connor, Center for Democracy and Technology

“Professors Solove and Schwartz pack an enormous amount of privacy knowledge into a slim volume in Privacy Law Fundamentals. In our fast-paced practice, there’s nothing better than a compact and accessible work that is curated by two of the great thinkers of the field. It is a gem.”

– Kurt Wimmer, Covington & Burling

“The go-to privacy law reference that you will keep going to. Professors Schwartz and Solove manage to distill without distorting and to outline without obscuring. Part reference, part primer and part pathfinder, Privacy Law Fundamentals is the ultimate privacy law resource.”

– Tom Counts, Paul Hastings

“This is the essential primer for all privacy practitioners. Professors Solove and Schwartz have done a remarkable job of keeping this volume current in the fast-changing environment of new technology, case law and legislation.”

– David A. Hoffman, Intel Corporation
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Daniel J. Solove is the John Marshall Harlan Research Professor of Law at the George Washington University Law School. He is also the President and CEO of TeachPrivacy, http://teachprivacy.com, a company that provides privacy and data security training to organizations in an array of industries. One of the world’s leading experts in privacy law, Solove is the author of numerous books, including Nothing to Hide: The False Tradeoff Between Privacy and Security (Yale 2011), Understanding Privacy (Harvard 2008), The Future of Reputation: Gossip and Rumor in the Information Age (Yale 2007; winner of the 2007 McGannon Award), and The Digital Person: Technology and Privacy in the Information Age (NYU 2004). Professor Solove is also the co-author (with Paul Schwartz) of a textbook, Information Privacy Law, with Aspen Publishing Co., now in its fifth edition. Additionally, he is the author of several other textbooks, including Privacy and the Media (2nd edition, Aspen Publishing Co. 2015), Privacy, Law Enforcement, and National Security (1st edition, Aspen Publishing Co. 2015), and Consumer Privacy and Data Protection (1st edition, Aspen Publishing Co. 2015), all with Paul Schwartz. He has published more than 50 articles and essays.

Solove has testified before the U.S. Congress and has been involved as an expert and consultant in a number of high-profile privacy cases. His work has been cited by many federal and state courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. He has been interviewed and featured in several hundred media broadcasts and articles in publications and on networks including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, USA Today, Time, Newsweek, People, Reader’s Digest, Associated Press, ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, NPR and C-SPAN’s “Book TV.”


Schwartz has testified as an expert before congressional committees in the United States and provided legal reports to the Commission of the European Community and Department of Justice, Canada. He has assisted numerous corporations in the United States and abroad with information privacy issues. A member of the American Law Institute, Schwartz has received scholarships and grants from the American Academy in Berlin, where he was a Berlin Prize Fellow; the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; German Marshall Fund; Fulbright Foundation; the German Academic Exchange, and the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the organizing committee of the Privacy Law Salon, and is Special Advisor to Paul Hastings LLP.

Schwartz belongs to the editorial boards of International Data Privacy Law, the International Journal of Law and Information Technology, and the Zeitschrift für Datenschutz (Data Protection Journal).

Schwartz received a JD degree from Yale Law School, where he was a senior editor on The Yale Law Journal, and a BA degree from Brown University. His homepage is www.paulschwartz.net.
DEDICATION

To Pamela and Griffin—DJS

To Steffie, Clara and Leo—PMS
This book provides a concise guide to privacy law. Privacy Law Fundamentals is designed to serve as a primer of the essential information that one needs to know about the field. For the student of privacy law or the beginning privacy professional, the book will provide an overview that can be digested readily. For the more seasoned and experienced, the book will serve as a handy reference guide, a way to refresh one’s memory of key components of privacy laws and central cases. It will help close gaps in knowledge and inform on areas of the field about which one wants to know more.

In writing this book, we have aimed to avoid the “too much information” problem by singling out the essential provisions of law, regulations, and judicial decisions. A frequent risk in law books is that key definitions, provisions, and concepts will become lost in a litany of long and dense statutes and in a mass of cases. We have endeavored to distill the field down to its fundamentals and present this information in as clear and useful a manner as we could. Wherever possible, we have developed charts and lists to convey the material.

The book is organized in thirteen chapters:

- Chapter One—a review of the key privacy developments since the last edition.
- Chapter Two—an overview of privacy law in all its varied types and forms and a timeline with key points in the development of privacy law.
- Chapter Three—privacy law involving the media, including the privacy torts, defamation, and the First Amendment.
- Chapter Four—the law of domestic law enforcement, focusing on the Fourth Amendment and the statutes regulating electronic surveillance.
- Chapter Five—national security law, including the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.
• Chapter Six—the laws and regulations that pertain to health and genetic data, including HIPAA.

• Chapter Seven—government records and laws, such as the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

• Chapter Eight—the laws concerning financial information, including the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

• Chapter Nine—legal regulation of the privacy of consumer data and business records, involving statutes, tort protections, and FTC enforcement actions.

• Chapter Ten—data security law, including the varying laws in a majority of the states.

• Chapter Eleven—school privacy, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

• Chapter Twelve—the regulation of employment privacy, including the different rules for government and private-sector employees.

• Chapter Thirteen—international privacy law, including the EU Data Protection Directive, the OECD Guidelines, the APEC Privacy Framework, and rules of international data transfers.

For his suggestions on our chapter about school privacy, we wish to thank Steven McDonald. This book also benefitted greatly from the research assistance of Henry Becker, Jordan Bock, Thad Houston, Richard Johnson, Lea Mekhneche, Robert Paris, and Michelle Parker.

For further references, including books, websites, statutes, and other sources of news and legal materials, visit our website (http://informationprivacylaw.com), and for our casebooks, click on the “resources” tab at the top.

We look forward to keeping this book up to date and to finding additional ways to make it as useful as possible. Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions and feedback about the book.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CHAPTER 1: NEW DEVELOPMENTS

### PRIVACY AND THE MEDIA
- New Laws of Note ........................................ 1
- First Amendment Restrictions .............................. 1
- Notable Scholarship: Books ................................. 2

### PRIVACY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
- Fourth Amendment ........................................ 2
- Drones ..................................................... 3
- Mail Covers ................................................. 3
- Electronic Communications ................................. 3
- State Electronic Surveillance Law: Recording Police Encounters ................. 4
- Notable Scholarship: Books ................................. 4
- Notable Scholarship: Articles and Other Sources .............................. 5

### NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE
- Foreign Intelligence Gathering ............................. 5
- Leading Cases on Foreign Intelligence Gathering ................. 6
- National Security Letters (NSLs) ............................ 6
- Notable Reports ........................................... 6
- Notable Scholarship: Books ................................. 7
- Notable Scholarship: Articles and Other Sources .............................. 7

### HEALTH PRIVACY
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) .................... 7
- Notable Cases ............................................... 8
- New HHS OCR HIPAA Enforcement Cases .......................... 8
- New State HIPAA Enforcement Cases .......................... 11
- State Laws ................................................. 11
- Constitutional Right to Privacy .................................. 11

### GOVERNMENT RECORDS
- FOIA Amendment ......................................... 11
Automatic License Plate Readers ............................................. 12
Government Privacy and Security Management ......................... 12
Notable Books ...................................................................... 13
Notable Scholarship: Articles and Other Sources ......................... 13

FINANCIAL DATA .................................................................. 13
Notable FCRA Cases ................................................................ 13
CFPB Rulemaking .................................................................. 13
Notable CFPB Cases ............................................................... 14

CONSUMER DATA .................................................................. 14
New Cases: Standing ................................................................. 14
Notable FTC Cases ................................................................ 14
Notable FTC Enforcement Actions ............................................ 15
Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) ....................... 17
FTC COPPA Cases ................................................................. 17
Video Privacy Protection Act (VPPA) ........................................... 17
VPPA: Leading Cases .............................................................. 17
Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) ............................... 18
FCC Enforcement .................................................................. 18
Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) ........................... 19
Notable New Books ................................................................ 20
Notable New Articles ............................................................... 20

DATA SECURITY .................................................................... 20
Notable Cases: FTC ................................................................. 20
Notable FTC Enforcement Actions ............................................ 20
Notable CFPB Enforcement Actions ......................................... 21
Notable FCC Enforcement ....................................................... 21
Notable Treatises ................................................................. 22

EDUCATION PRIVACY ............................................................ 22
New Federal Laws ................................................................. 22
New Fourth Amendment Cases ............................................... 22
Notable Scholarship: Articles and Other Sources ......................... 23

EMPLOYMENT PRIVACY ........................................................ 23
New NLRB Cases ................................................................. 23
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ........................................ 24
New Employer Access to Employee Social Media Account Laws .... 24

INTERNATIONAL PRIVACY LAW ............................................. 25
ECHR Cases ....................................................................... 25
European Court of Justice (ECJ) ............................................... 25
The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) ......................... 26
Invalidation of the U.S.-EU Safe Harbor Arrangement ................ 27
The EU-U.S. Privacy Shield ................................................... 27
Principles of the Privacy Shield ............................................... 27
Other Aspects of the Privacy Shield .......................................... 28
New Developments: Canada ................................................................. 29
New Developments: Japan ................................................................. 29
New Developments: Russia ................................................................. 29
FTC Enforcement of the APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules System ... 29
Notable Scholarship: Treatises and Books ........................................ 30
Articles and Other Sources ............................................................... 30

CHAPTER 2: AN OVERVIEW OF PRIVACY LAW

ESSENTIAL POINTS .................................................................................. 31

TYPES OF PRIVACY LAW ...................................................................... 32
Torts ........................................................................................................ 32
   Torts Most Commonly Involved In Privacy Cases .......................... 32
   Origins Of The Privacy Torts ............................................................ 32
Contract/Promissory Estoppel ............................................................ 32
Criminal Law ......................................................................................... 33
Evidentiary Privileges ......................................................................... 33
Federal Constitutional Law ................................................................. 33
   Ways the U.S. Constitution Protects Privacy .................................. 33
State Constitutional Law .................................................................... 33
   States With Express Constitutional Privacy Protection ............... 33
Federal Statutory Law ........................................................................ 34
State Statutory Law ........................................................................... 36
   Areas of State Legislation on Privacy ............................................. 36
International Law ................................................................................ 37

THE CHIEF PRIVACY OFFICER ............................................................... 37
   The Development Of Privacy Law: A Timeline .............................. 38

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE .................................................................. 44
   Treatises ........................................................................................... 44
   General Sources ................................................................................ 44

CHAPTER 3: PRIVACY AND THE MEDIA

ESSENTIAL POINTS ................................................................................ 47

THE PRIVACY TORTS ........................................................................... 47
Public Disclosure of Private Facts ..................................................... 47
   Approaches to the Newsworthiness Test ....................................... 48
Intrusion Upon Seclusion ................................................................. 48
   What Constitutes A Privacy Interest? ........................................... 49
   Highly Offensive To A Reasonable Person ................................. 50
False Light ............................................................................................ 51
Appropriation of Name or Likeness .................................................. 51
CHAPTER 5: NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

ESSENTIAL POINTS .............................. 85
THE FOURTH AMENDMENT ............. 85
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE GATHERING .................................................. 86
  Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA) .................. 86
  USA Freedom Act of 2015 ...................................................... 87

GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY PURPOSES ............................................ 88
  National Security Letters (NSLs) ........................................... 88
  USA Patriot Act of 2001, § 215 ............................................ 89

STATE SECRETS ........................................................................... 89

THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY ............................................. 89
  Intelligence Agencies ............................................................ 89
  Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA) 90

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE .......................................................... 91
  Treatises ............................................................................. 91
  Books ................................................................................. 91
  Government Reports ............................................................ 91
  Articles and Other Sources .................................................. 92

CHAPTER 6: HEALTH PRIVACY ..................................................... 95

ESSENTIAL POINTS ................................................................. 95

PATIENT-PHYSICIAN CONFIDENTIALITY .................................. 96
  Ethical Rules .......................................................................... 96
  Evidentiary Privileges ............................................................ 96
  The Breach of Confidentiality Tort ......................................... 96
  Public Disclosure of Private Facts ......................................... 97
    Key Points: Common Law Torts and Medical Information .... 97
  Tort Liability for Failing to Disclose Personal Data ............... 97

MEDICAL INFORMATION .......................................................... 98
  State Regulation ................................................................. 98
  Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) 99
    De-Identifying Data Under HIPAA ..................................... 101
  Court Cases ......................................................................... 103
    HIPAA Myths and Facts ..................................................... 103
    HIPAA Problems to Avoid .................................................. 104
  OCR HIPAA Enforcement Actions ........................................ 104
  State Enforcement Actions ................................................... 107
  The Common Rule ............................................................... 108
  Federal Drug and Alcohol Confidentiality Statute ................... 109
  Subpoenas for Medical Information .................................... 110

CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS ............................................ 110
  Constitutional Right to Privacy ............................................. 110
  Constitutional Right to Information Privacy ......................... 111
Fourth Amendment .......................................................... 111

GENETIC INFORMATION ................................................. 111
  Genetic Testing and Discrimination ................................. 111

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE ............................................. 112
  Treatises ................................................................. 112
  Books ....................................................................... 112
  Articles and Other Sources .......................................... 113

CHAPTER 7: GOVERNMENT RECORDS

ESSENTIAL POINTS ......................................................... 115

FAIR INFORMATION PRACTICES (FIPs) ............................. 116

COURT RECORDS .......................................................... 116
  Common Law Right to Access Court Records ................. 116
  Protective Orders ....................................................... 116
  Depositions and Interrogatories ................................. 117
  Pseudonymous Litigation .......................................... 117
  Juror Privacy ............................................................ 117
  The First Amendment Right to Access ......................... 117

PUBLIC RECORDS .......................................................... 117
  Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) ............................ 117
  State Public Records .................................................. 119
    State Freedom of Information Statutes ...................... 119
    The Constitution and Personal Data in Public Records .... 121
    When Does the Constitution Limit the Government from
      Disclosing Personal Information? ......................... 122
  Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002 (CIIA) .... 122

PRIVACY RIGHTS IN GOVERNMENT RECORDS .................. 122
  The Privacy Act of 1974 ............................................ 122
    Establishing a Violation of the Privacy Act ............... 124
  State Privacy Acts ..................................................... 125
    State Statutes Regulating Government Website Privacy Policies 127
  DNA Databases .......................................................... 127
  Driver’s Privacy Protection Act of 1994 (DPPA) ............. 128
    DPPA: Key Points ................................................... 128
  Identification Records and Requirements ..................... 129
    Social Security Numbers ........................................ 130

GOVERNMENT PRIVACY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT .......... 131
  E-Government Act of 2002 ......................................... 131
  Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA) 131
  Office of Mgmt. & Budget ........................................... 131
FOR FURTHER REFERENCE .................................................. 132
  Treatises ................................................................. 132
  Books ...................................................................... 132
  Articles and Other Sources ...................................... 132

CHAPTER 8: FINANCIAL DATA

ESSENTIAL POINTS ......................................................... 135
  The Financial Services Industry .................................. 135
  Fair Credit Reporting Act of 1970 (FCRA) .................. 135
    The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau .............. 137
    Credit Reporting Limits ......................................... 138
    FCRA: Keys to Compliance ....................................... 140
    FTC FCRA Enforcement Actions .............................. 141

THE USE AND DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION .... 143
  Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 (GLBA) .................. 143
  CFPB Enforcement Actions ....................................... 145
  Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 (RFPA) ............ 145
  Bank Secrecy Act of 1970 (BSA) ............................... 146
  Torts and Financial Privacy ....................................... 147
  State Financial Statutes ........................................... 148
    California’s SB1 and FCRA Preemption .................... 148

TAX PRIVACY ............................................................... 148
  Internal Revenue Code ............................................. 148

IDENTITY THEFT ........................................................... 149
  Identity Theft Assumption and Deterrence Act of 1998 .... 149
  State Identity Theft Statutes ...................................... 149

GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION ....... 150

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE ............................................. 150
  Treatises ................................................................. 150
  Articles and Other Sources ...................................... 151

CHAPTER 9: CONSUMER DATA

ESSENTIAL POINTS ........................................................ 153

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION ..................... 154
  Approaches to Defining PII ........................................ 154
  Injury and Standing .................................................. 155
    Standing ............................................................... 155

TORT LAW ................................................................. 156
CONTRACT AND PROMISSORY ESTOPPEL
Breach of Contract ............................................. 157
Promissory Estoppel .......................................... 158
  Are Privacy Policies Contracts? ....................... 158
  Liability for Third-Party Apps? ....................... 158

FTC ENFORCEMENT OF SECTION 5 OF THE FTC ACT
  Statutes Granting Enforcement Authority to the FTC .. 159
  Triggers for FTC Complaints .............................. 165
  FTC Consent Decrees ...................................... 165

CFPB ENFORCEMENT ......................................... 166

FEDERAL STATUTES: ENTERTAINMENT RECORDS
  Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 (CCPA) .... 166
  Video Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (VPPA) ........ 167
  Video Privacy Protection Act Amendments Act of 2012 .. 168

FEDERAL STATUTES: MARKETING .......................... 170
  Telecommunications Act of 1996 ....................... 170
  Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 (TCPA) ... 170
  Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography
            and Marketing Act of 2003 (CAN-SPAM) ....... 171
  FCC Enforcement ......................................... 172
  FCC, Privacy Guidelines for ISPs (2016) ............... 172

FEDERAL STATUTES: INTERNET USE AND ELECTRONIC
  Communications ............................................. 173
  Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (COPPA) .. 173
    FTC COPPA Enforcement Actions ........................ 175
    Complying with COPPA .................................. 178
    How to Determine if a Website (or a Portion of It)
            Is Directed at Children ........................... 178
  Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (ECPA) .... 179
  Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA) ..................... 179
    Is the CFAA Too Broad and Vague? ................. 180

FEDERAL STATUTES: OVERVIEW ............................... 181
  Scope of Federal Statute Coverage ....................... 181
  Federal Statutes and Private Rights of Action ........... 181
  Federal Statutes and Liquidated Damages ............... 182
  Federal Statutes and Criminal Penalties ................ 184
  Federal Statutes: Enforcement ............................ 185
  Federal Statutes and Preemption ......................... 187
  Federal Statutes and Opt-In/Opt-Out ..................... 194

STATE STATUTES ............................................... 194
Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ......................................................... 195
  State Statutes Regulating Private-Sector Use of RFID .................................. 195
“Eraser” or “Right to Be Forgotten” Laws ..................................................... 196
Marketing ........................................................................................................ 197
Spyware .......................................................................................................... 197
  State Spyware Statutes .................................................................................. 197
Video Privacy .................................................................................................. 199
Transparency ................................................................................................... 199

FIRST AMENDMENT ....................................................................................... 200

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE ................................................................. 201
  Books ............................................................................................................ 201
  Articles and Other Sources ........................................................................... 202

CHAPTER 10: DATA SECURITY

ESSENTIAL POINTS ....................................................................................... 205

DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION STATUTES ........................................ 205
  Rise of the State Statutes ............................................................................. 205
  State Data Security Breach Notification Statutes ......................................... 205
    State Data Security Breach Notification Laws Key ..................................... 206
    State Data Security Breach Notification Laws ............................................ 207
    PII Definitions In State Data Security Breach Notification Laws (Overview) .. 210
  State Credit Freeze Statutes ........................................................................ 213

FTC ENFORCEMENT UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE FTC ACT .......... 213

CFPB ENFORCEMENT ................................................................................ 217

FCC ENFORCEMENT .................................................................................. 217

TORT ............................................................................................................. 218
  What Constitutes a Privacy Harm? ............................................................... 218

DATA DISPOSAL .......................................................................................... 220
  State Data Disposal Statutes ....................................................................... 220

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE ....................................................................... 222
  Treatises ....................................................................................................... 222
  Books ........................................................................................................... 222
  Articles and Other Sources ........................................................................ 223

CHAPTER 11: EDUCATION PRIVACY

ESSENTIAL POINTS ....................................................................................... 225
STUDENT RECORDS ........................................... 225
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) .... 225
Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment of 1978 (PPRA) ........ 227
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) .......................... 228
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ............ 228
National School Lunch Act (NSLA) ............................. 229
Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy
and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) .................... 229
Other Regulations .............................................. 229
Gainful Employment Rule (2011) ................................ 229
Other Statutes .................................................... 230

STATE LAWS .................................................... 230
Student Data Collection, Use, and Disclosure ..................... 230
Social Media Account Access .................................... 231

STUDENT SPEECH AND EXPRESSION ......................... 232
State Anti-Bullying Laws ....................................... 232

SEARCHES AND SURVEILLANCE ................................ 233
Fourth Amendment .............................................. 233

SELF-REGULATORY MEASURES ............................... 234
Future of Privacy Forum, Student Data Privacy Pledge (2014) .... 234

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE .................................. 234
Treatises ......................................................... 234
Articles and Other Sources ...................................... 235

CHAPTER 12: EMPLOYMENT PRIVACY

ESSENTIAL POINTS ............................................. 237

SEARCHES ...................................................... 238
Government Employees: Fourth Amendment .................... 238
Private Sector Employees: Fourth Amendment .................. 238
Searches and Surveillance by Private-Sector Employers ......... 239

QUESTIONING AND TESTING .................................. 240
Fourth Amendment ............................................. 240
Constitutional Right to Information Privacy ..................... 240
Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 (EPPA) .......... 241
Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) ............... 241
Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) ................... 242
Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) .. 242
State Employment Testing and Inquiry Laws .................... 242
State Criminal Background Check “Ban the Box” Laws ......... 243
EMPLOYEE ACCESS TO THE COMPUTER NETWORK ........................................... 244
  United States v. Nosal, 676 F.3d 854 (9th Cir. 2012) (en banc) ................. 244
  United States v. Rodriguez, 628 F.3d 1258 (11th Cir. 2010) ....................... 244

SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING .............................................................. 244
  Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) ........................................ 244
  What Every Employer Must Know to Comply with ECPA ....................... 245
  Employment Privacy Law: Public VS. Private Sector ............................ 245

EMPLOYER SOCIAL MEDIA POLICIES AND PRACTICES .............................. 246
  National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) .................................................... 246
  The NLRA and Social Media Policies .................................................... 247
  Employer Access to Employee Social Media Accounts ............................ 249

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE ........................................................................... 251
  Treatises ................................................................................................. 251
  Articles and Other Sources ................................................................. 251

CHAPTER 13: INTERNATIONAL PRIVACY LAW

ESSENTIAL POINTS ....................................................................................... 253
  Data Protection and Information Privacy: A Note on Terminology ........... 254

WORLDWIDE PRIVACY RIGHTS AND GUIDELINES ................................ 254
  Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) ................................... 254
  OECD Privacy Guidelines (1980) ......................................................... 254
    OECD Member Countries ..................................................................... 255
    The Influence of the OECD Guidelines ............................................... 256
  UN Guidelines for the Regulation of Computerized Personal Files (1990) . 256

EUROPE ......................................................................................................... 257
  European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) .................................. 257
  Council of Europe Convention on Privacy .......................................... 259
  EU Data Protection Directive ............................................................... 260
    A Leading German Case on Search Engines ...................................... 263
  The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) .................................. 264
  The EU-US Privacy Shield Framework (2016) ....................................... 266
    Principles of the Privacy Shield ......................................................... 267
  Other Safe Harbor Arrangements ......................................................... 268
    Positive Adequacy Determinations by the EU Commission ............... 269
    Passenger Name Record (PNR) Agreements ...................................... 270
  Model Contractual Clauses .................................................................... 270
  Binding Corporate Rules (BCRs) ............................................................ 270
    Discovery from EU Member Nations in U.S. Litigation ...................... 271
  Directive on Privacy and Electronic Communications (E-Privacy Directive) . 271