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Oxford Pocket American Dictionary - \$12.95 - 1,004 pgs. Over 180,000 entries. Includes over 3,000 biographical and geographical entries. Most comprehensive paperback dictionary available. #02

Merriam-Webster's Dictionary - \$6.50 - 939 pgs. Over 75,000 definitions. Good basic dictionary. #03

Merriam-Webster's Spanish-English Dictionary - \$6.50 - 800 pgs. More than 80,000 entries and 100,000 translations. Many examples of a words use in context. English-Spanish and Spanish-English. Includes Latin-American Spanish. #04

Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus in Dictionary Form - \$5.99 - 976 pgs. Includes more than 1 million word choices. Features easy-to-use dictionary format, plus a Concept Index that also arranges words by idea. Includes definitions for each main entry. #05

Merriam-Webster's Vocabulary Builder - \$5.99 - 576 pgs. Good resource to expand one's vocabulary. Includes over 1,000 words with definitions and explanation of the words usage, including examples of its use in a sentence. #06

Essentials of English Grammar by L. Sue Baugh - \$9.95 - 176 pgs. Explains parts of speech, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, frequently confused words, and much more. Includes style tips on how to write with economy, clarity, and accuracy. #07

Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Law - \$15.95 - 634 pgs. Over 3,000 legal terms defined. Includes chapters discussing important legal cases, important laws. There's also a section on important legal agencies in the U.S., and the full U.S. Constitution. More complete than the paperback edition of a well-known law dictionary that sells for \$29.00. #08

Legal Writing in Plain English by Bryan A. Garner - \$16 - 227 pgs. A guide to clear and effective legal writing. Includes: Tips on generating thoughts, organizing them, and creating outlines; Sound advice on expressing your ideas clearly and powerfully; Dozens of real-life writing examples to illustrate writing problems and solutions; Exercises to reinforce principles of good writing; Helpful guidance on page layout; A punctuation guide that shows the correct uses of every punctuation mark; and model legal documents that demonstrate the power of plain English. Probably need at least the equivalent of a high-school education to make use of this book. #09

A+ Style Manual for Legal Writing in Plain English by Research and Education Association - \$9.95 - 106 pgs. Practical manual for law students, paralegals, lawyers and anyone who prepares legal documents. Includes rules of citation, abbreviation and capitalization, footnotes and numbers, and grammar and punctuation. Aids in writing legal papers in "plain English" instead of "legalese." Less detailed than *Legal Writing in Plain English*, but more understandable for a layperson. #40

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The Criminal Law Handbook (9th ed.) (Sept. 2007) by Attorneys Paul Bergman & Sara J. Berman-Barrett - \$39.99 - 640 pgs. Explains what goes on in a criminal case. Covers: arrests; booking; preliminary hearings; charges; bail; courts; arraignment; search and seizure; defenses; evidence; trials; plea bargains; sentencing; juveniles. Covers Supreme Court cases and changes in criminal law (through August 2007). #10

Legal Research: How to Find & Understand the Law (14th ed.) (Sept. 2007) by Attorneys Paul Bergman & Sara J. Berman-Barrett - \$39.99 - 322 pgs. Learn how to do legal research, and use a law library to seek and understand statutes, regulations and cases. Also explains online resources. Written for a layperson. Aids in saving time by narrowing your focus and formulating legal questions such as, is the issue federal or state, civil or criminal, procedural or substantive? #93

The Citebook - \$49.95 - Many hundreds of positive case citations that "give you a right, not take one away," are listed in alphabetical categories for easy inclusion in your legal brief. Up-to-date. New edition published yearly. #11

Everyday Letters For Busy People (Rev. ed.) by Debra Hart May and Regina McAloney - \$16.95 - 288 pgs. Hundreds of sample letters for all occasions, including: Letters to government officials and agencies; Business letters; Complaint letters; Community action letters; Job-search letters; Thank-you letters. Letters can be adapted for your situation. Includes helpful tips and techniques to effectively get your message across. Includes email tips. #13

New York Times Almanac - \$11.95 - 1,008 pgs. Includes a wealth of comprehensive information about a diverse range of topics related to the U.S. and the rest of the world. Includes social, political, population, geographic information, and sports. #14

Eyewitness Testimony by Elizabeth Loftus - \$25 - 272 pgs. Professor Loftus is one of the world's leading authorities on the unreliability of eyewitness testimony. She explains the basics of eyewitness fallibility, such as poor viewing conditions, brief exposure and stress. She also covers more subtle factors, such as expectations, biases, and personal stereotypes that can result in a suspects's erroneous identification. Loftus also explains that experiments have repeatedly proven that eyewitness memory is chronically inaccurate. #21

Surviving Justice: America's Wrongfully Convicted and Exonerated edited by Dave Eggers & Lola Vollen - \$16 - 512 pgs. Thirteen exonerees describe their experiences, the events that led to their convictions, their years in prison, and their new lives outside. The exonerees tell of the devastating effect of incarceration on them and their loved ones, and how they have been forever changed by their experience. #49

No Crueler Tyrannies: Accusation, False Witness, and Other Terrors of Our Times by Dorothy Rabinowitz - \$13 - 256 pgs. Examines some of the sex-abuse cases of the 1980s and 90s that saw dozens of innocent adults convicted of absurd charges. Included are the "sex-ring" cases in Wenatchee, Washington where 19 people were wrongly convicted of sex abuse charges. Also included is the Amirault case in Malden, Massachusetts, where bizarre false allegations were taken seriously. #52

The Innocent Man by John Grisham - \$7.99 - 448 pgs. Best selling author John Grisham spent two years researching and writing this account of Ron Williamson's life, and how he was convicted of rape and murder and sentenced to death in Oklahoma in spite of being innocent. #95

In Spite of Innocence: Erroneous Convictions in Capital Cases by Michael Radelet, Hugo Adam Bedau and Constance Putnam - \$24.95 - 416 pgs. Details how over 400 Americans were wrongly convicted in cases carrying the maximum penalty of a death sentence. Expands on well-known 1987 Stanford Law Review article by Radelet and Bedau that has been cited several times in U.S. Supreme Court opinions, most recently in June 2006. #15

Actual Innocence by Barry Scheck, Peter Neufeld and Jim Dwyer - \$14.95 - 432 pgs. Latest edition. Case histories explain how people have been wrongly convicted by erroneous eyewitness identification, jailhouse informants, junk science, perjured testimony, prosecutor and police concealment of evidence, etc. Explains how new evidence, including scientific tests, has helped free wrongly convicted people. #16

Wrongly Convicted: Perspectives on Failed Justice Ed. by Sandra Westervelt and John Humphrey - \$23.95 - 301 pgs. Articles by leading authorities explain how and why wrongful convictions occur. The book is divided into four sections: the causes of wrongful convictions; the social characteristics of the wrongly convicted; case studies and personal histories; and suggestions for changes in the legal system to prevent wrongful convictions. #18

Suspect Identities: A History of Fingerprinting and Criminal Identification by Simon Cole - \$21 - 400 pgs. Most comprehensive book available about the history of fingerprinting and why it may not be the "gold standard" of evidence that most people believe it to be. Professor Cole is one of the world's leading critics of Court's allowing fingerprint examiners to testify as experts. A must have book by anyone with an interest in fingerprinting. #20

Dehumanization Is Not An Option by Hans Sherrer - \$10 - 106 pgs. Explains that the mistreatment of prisoners is not due to the rogue actions of a few "bad apples." It is a predictable response of placing people in a position of authority over others that they see as undeserving of humane treatment. This attitude of treating people barbarically is unleashed in those working in an authoritarian prison environment. #106

The I Chong: Meditations from the Joint by Tommy Chong - \$14.95 - 224 pgs. First person account of how a criminal drug case was contrived against Tommy Chong (of the comedy duo of Cheech & Chong) that resulted in him spending nine months in federal prison in 2003-2004. A straightforward accounts of how the federal government misuses the criminal laws to prosecute critics of political policies. Written with the heart and wit that one would expect from a professional entertainer. #86

Mistaken Identification: The Eyewitness, Psychology and the Law by Brian L. Cutler and Steven D. Penrod - \$44.99 - 300 pgs. Reviews research concerning the adequacy of safeguards protecting a person from being convicted due to a mistaken eyewitness identification. The presence of counsel at line-ups, cross-examination, and judges' instructions have proven ineffective at preventing a mistaken identification. Expert psychological testimony educating the jury about how memory processes work and how eyewitness testimony should be evaluated, shows much greater promise as a safeguard against mistaken identifications. #74

How to Argue & Win Every Time: At Home, At Work, In Court, Everywhere, Everyday by Gerry Spence - \$15.95 - 307 pgs. Most successful defense lawyer in American history shares his secrets to successfully convince others to see your point of view. He teaches some of these techniques to the lawyers who attend his Trial Lawyer's College in Wyoming to learn how to win. #17

