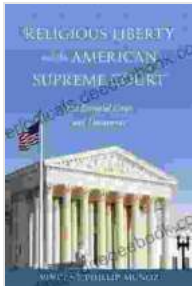


# The Essential Cases and Documents: A Comprehensive Guide



## Religious Liberty and the American Supreme Court: The Essential Cases and Documents by Donna Harrington

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2987 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 1165 pages



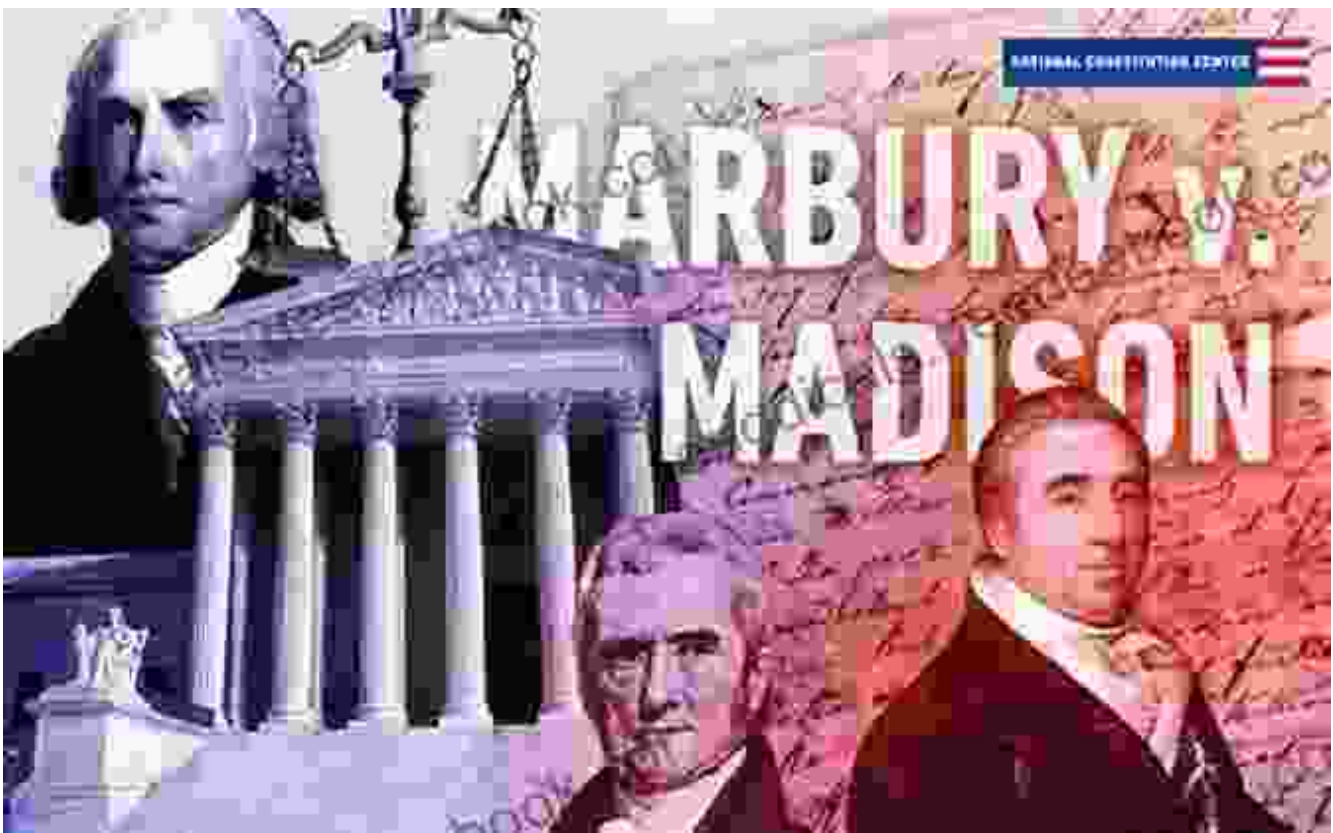
The American legal system is a vast and complex tapestry woven from centuries of legal decisions and historical documents. At the heart of this intricate framework lies a body of essential cases and documents that have shaped the very foundation of American law. These rulings and writings have established fundamental legal principles, defined individual rights, and provided the framework for legal reasoning and interpretation.

Understanding the essential cases and documents is paramount for anyone seeking a comprehensive grasp of the American legal system. This indispensable guide delves into the significance, summaries, and analyses of these cornerstone legal materials, offering a comprehensive resource for law students, legal professionals, and anyone striving to deepen their knowledge of the American legal landscape.

## **Constitutional Law**

The United States Constitution stands as the supreme law of the land, its provisions defining the fundamental rights and powers of the federal government, individual states, and citizens. Several Supreme Court rulings have played a pivotal role in interpreting and shaping constitutional principles.

### ***Marbury v. Madison* (1803)**



*Marbury v. Madison* established the principle of judicial review, empowering the Supreme Court to declare laws unconstitutional. This landmark decision cemented the Court's role as the ultimate arbiter of the Constitution.

### ***McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)**

*McCulloch v. Maryland* affirmed the federal government's implied powers under the Necessary and Proper Clause, expanding its authority beyond those explicitly enumerated in the Constitution.

### ***Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)***

*Dred Scott v. Sandford* infamously ruled that African Americans were not citizens and could not sue in federal court. This deeply flawed decision exacerbated tensions leading to the Civil War.

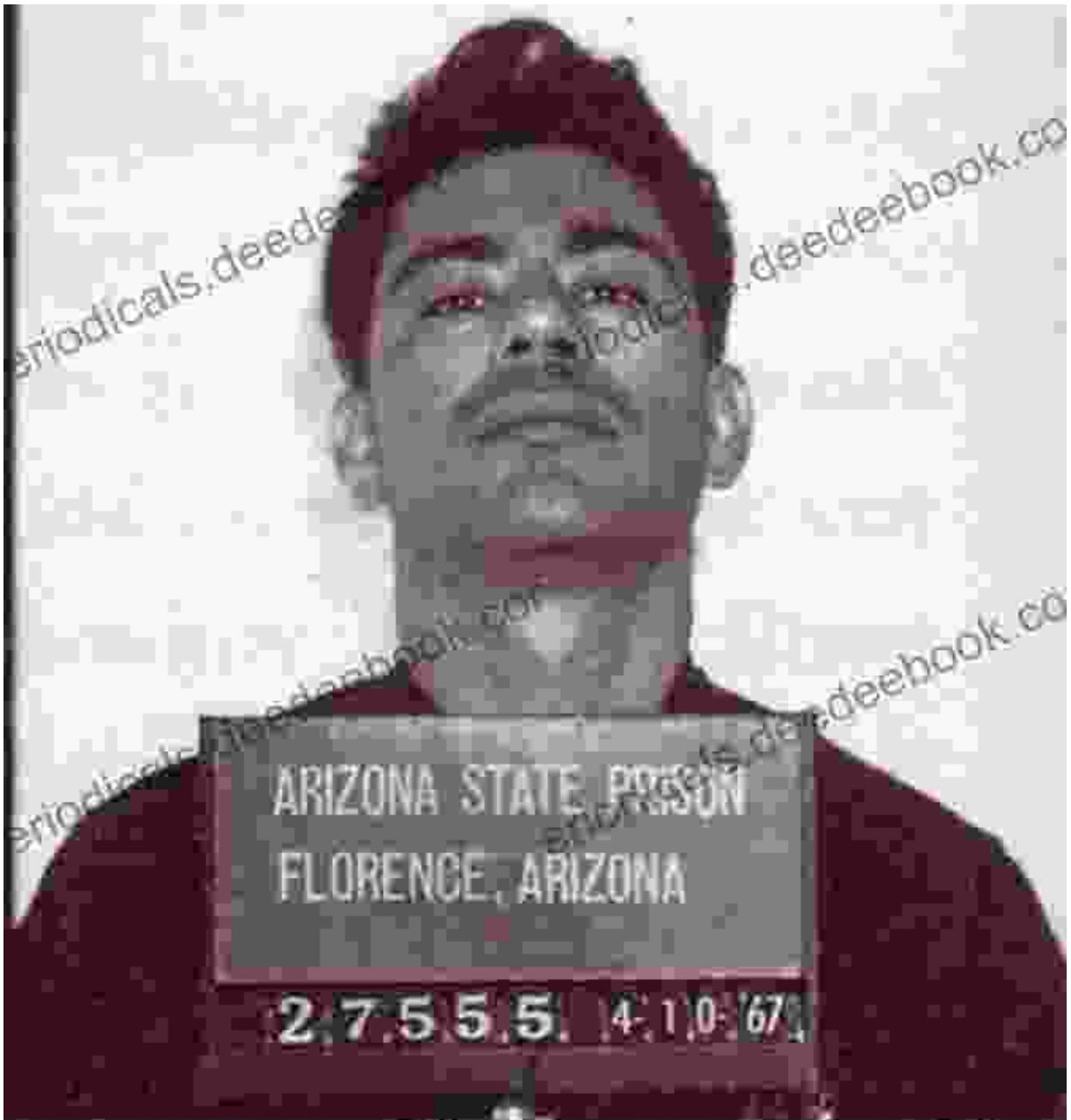
### ***Brown v. Board of Education (1954)***

*Brown v. Board of Education* overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson* and declared racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional, marking a turning point in the Civil Rights Movement.

## **Criminal Law**

Criminal law defines and prohibits conduct that threatens society's safety and well-being. Supreme Court rulings have played a crucial role in shaping the rights of criminal defendants and the procedures used in criminal prosecutions.

### ***Miranda v. Arizona (1966)***



*Miranda v. Arizona* established the requirement that police must inform suspects of their rights before questioning them, including the right to remain silent and to an attorney.

***Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)**

*Gideon v. Wainwright* guaranteed the right to counsel for indigent defendants in criminal cases, ensuring that all individuals have access to legal representation.

### ***Mapp v. Ohio* (1961)**

*Mapp v. Ohio* extended the Fourth Amendment's exclusionary rule to the states, prohibiting the use of illegally obtained evidence in criminal trials.

### **Civil Rights**

Civil rights laws protect individuals from discrimination based on race, gender, religion, and other protected characteristics. Supreme Court rulings have expanded and strengthened these protections.

### ***Loving v. Virginia* (1967)**



*Loving v. Virginia* struck down laws prohibiting interracial marriage, affirming the right to marry regardless of race.

### ***Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)***

*Obergefell v. Hodges* legalized same-sex marriage nationwide, recognizing the fundamental right to marry for all couples.

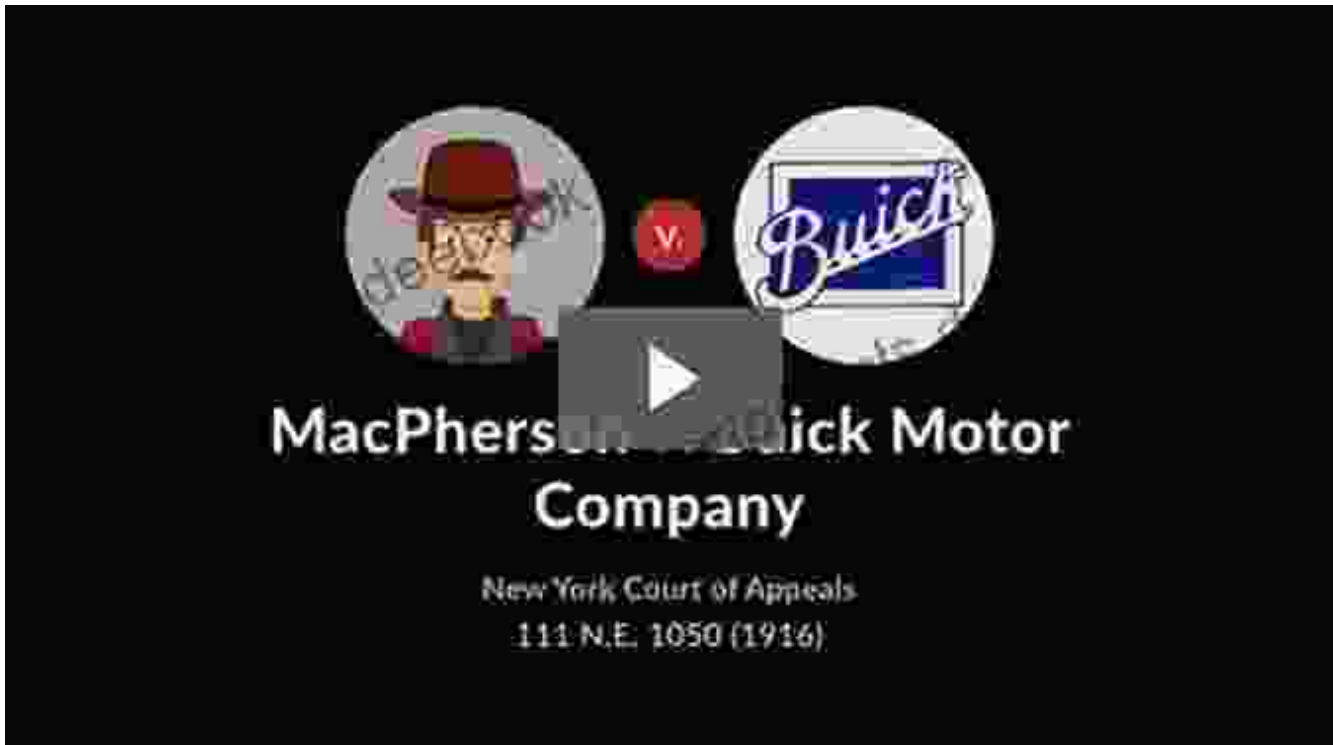
### ***Roe v. Wade (1973)***

*Roe v. Wade* established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, sparking ongoing debate and controversy.

## **Torts**

Tort law provides remedies for civil wrongs that cause harm to individuals or property. Supreme Court rulings have shaped the development of tort doctrines and principles.

### ***MacPherson v. Buick Motor Co. (1916)***



*MacPherson v. Buick Motor Co.* established the doctrine of strict liability for manufacturers, holding them responsible for injuries caused by defective products.

***United States v. Carroll Towing Co. (1947)***

*United States v. Carroll Towing Co.* introduced the concept of comparative negligence, allowing courts to apportion liability between multiple negligent parties.

***Palsgraf v. Long Island Railroad Co. (1928)***

*Palsgraf v. Long Island Railroad Co.* set forth the "proximate cause" doctrine, limiting liability to foreseeable harm.

**Contracts**

Contract law governs the legally enforceable agreements between parties. Supreme Court rulings have clarified the essential elements of contracts and the remedies for breach.

### ***Hadley v. Baxendale (1854)***



*Hadley v. Baxendale* established the rule of foreseeability for damages in contract breaches, limiting recovery to losses that were reasonably foreseeable.

### ***Uniform Commercial Code (1952)***

The *Uniform Commercial Code* (UCC) is a comprehensive set of laws governing commercial transactions, including the sale of goods, negotiable instruments, and secured transactions.

### ***UCC v. Kimbell Foods, Inc. (1971)***

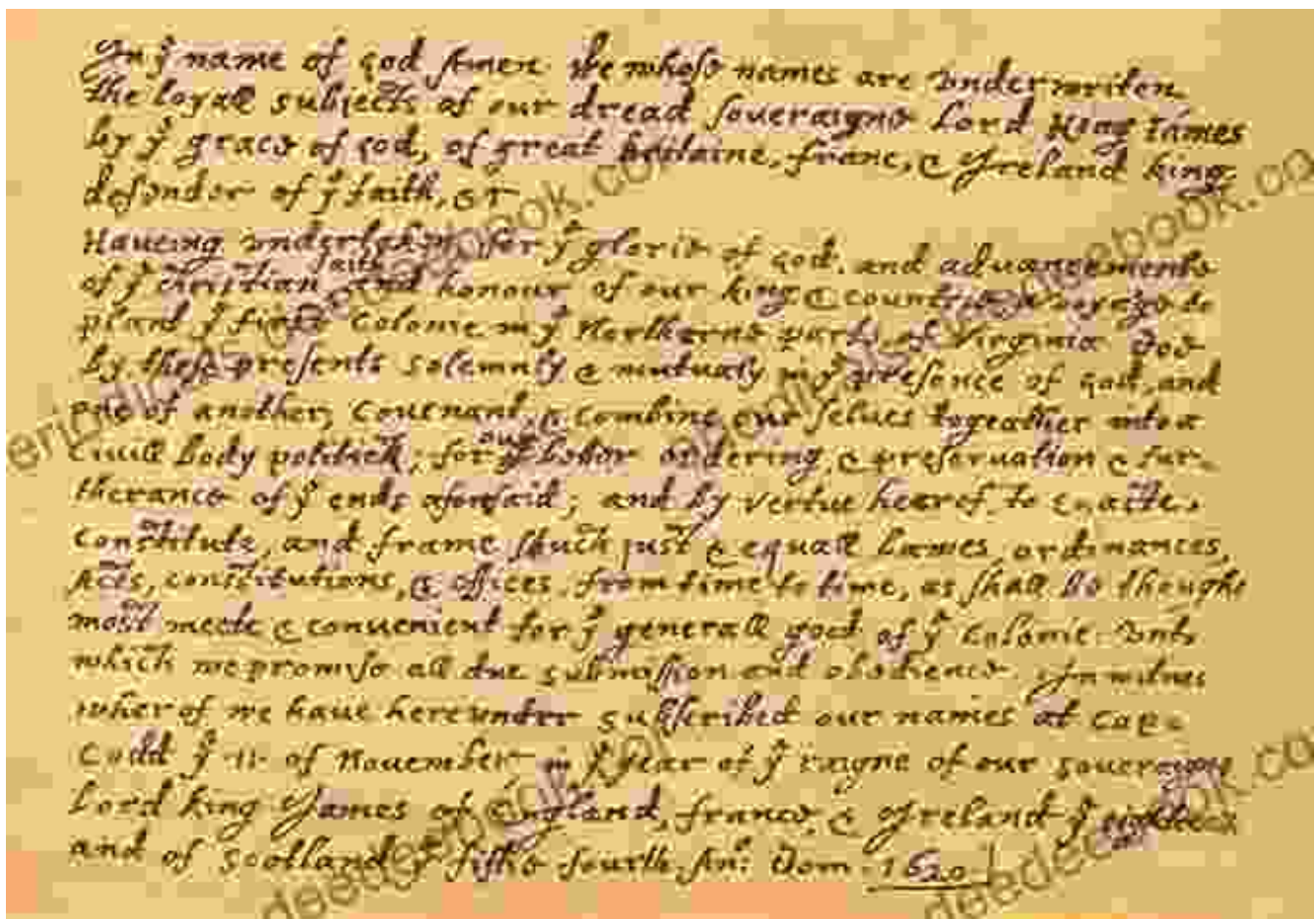


*UCC v. Kimbell Foods, Inc.* clarified the rules for determining the validity of contract modifications under the UCC.

## Historical Documents

In addition to landmark Supreme Court rulings, several historical documents have profoundly shaped the American legal system.

### **Mayflower Compact (1620)**



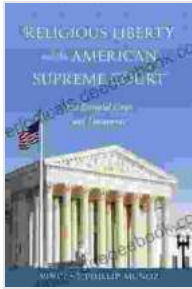
## Religious Liberty and the American Supreme Court:

### The Essential Cases and Documents by Donna Harrington

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

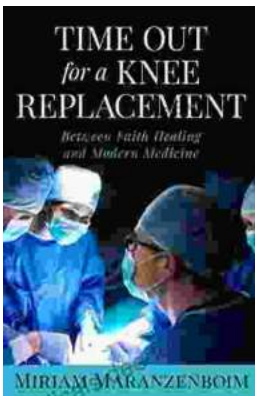
File size : 2987 KB



Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 1165 pages

FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



## Time Out for Knee Replacement: Essential Information for Patients Undergoing Total Knee Arthroplasty

Total knee replacement (TKR) is a surgical procedure that involves replacing the damaged knee joint with an artificial implant. It is a common...



## Clarinet Fundamentals: A Systematic Fingering Course for Beginners

Welcome to the exciting world of clarinet playing! Whether you're a complete beginner or have some prior musical experience, our systematic fingering course is...