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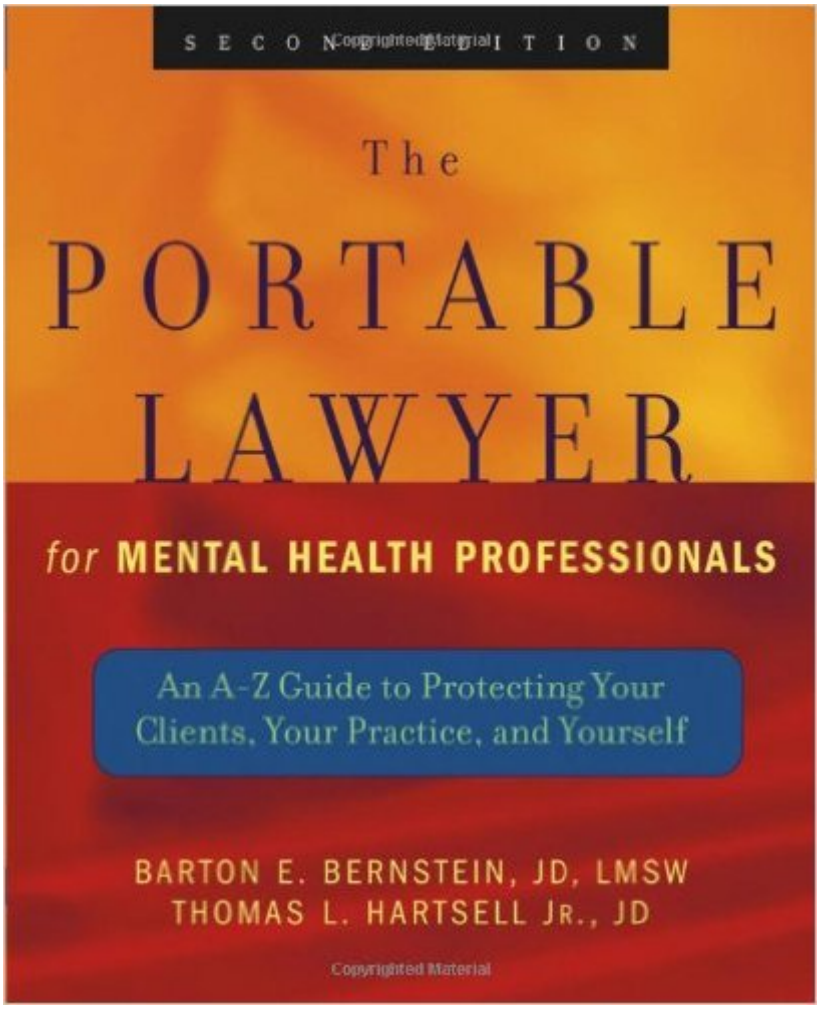
The Portable Lawyer For Mental Health Professionals: An A-Z Guide To Protecting Your Clients, Your Practice, And Yourself



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Synopsis

Safeguard your mental health practice with up-to-date information and savvy advice on practicing in today’s legal environment Today’s mental health professional must approach the legal aspects of practice with both sensitivity and foreknowledge. The array of legal guidelines and ethical standards to comprehend is increasing in scope and complexity. Licensing issues, ethics questions, and malpractice suits all present pitfalls that, if ignored or misapprehended, can interrupt or even end a career. Written by two attorneys specializing in the legal aspects of mental health care, The Portable Lawyer for Mental Health Professionals, Second Edition is an indispensable survival guide for all clinicians. The authors explain how to handle allegations of malpractice, cope with threats of violence, preserve client confidentiality, and more. Each chapter features step-by-step guidance, helpful case studies, "legal light bulbs" highlighting important concepts, answers to frequently asked questions, dos and don’ts, and sample forms and contracts to help you safeguard your practice. Completely revised and updated, the Second Edition also includes new information on: * HIPAA * Treating older adults * Using "exotic" therapy techniques * Ethical and legal aspects of office leases * And more The Portable Lawyer for Mental Health Professionals, Second Edition offers the latest information for practicing in today’s legal environment. Mental health caregivers, graduate students, attorneys, and clients alike will find this guide to be an invaluable resource.

Book Information

Paperback: 480 pages

Publisher: Wiley; 2 edition (April 12, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0471465518

ISBN-13: 978-0471465515

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #965,261 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 inÂ Books > Law > Health & Medical Law > Malpractice #62 inÂ Books > Law > Health & Medical Law > Mental Health #390 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Pathology > Forensic Medicine

Customer Reviews

I stumbled across this book while preparing a project as part of my undergrad Psychology studies. What a lucky find this is! *** Many statements exist in the world of mental health practice regarding

what standards of professionalism, ethicality, conduct, and confidentiality a psychologist should adhere to. Many of them, I've discovered so far, are abstract: they state the standard but give little, if any, illustration on how a practicing therapist applies all that to his/her job and life. This book is the first I've uncovered that gives the clear and understandable picture that I need as an aspiring psychologist. *** I think I understand well enough the general principle that motivated the authors to write this book: all too often, each of us has gotten burned in the past because of some rule, some technicality, some law that would have worked in our favor had we acted with a knowledge of it. For example, I know someone who wouldn't have paid a single cent of his medical bills caused by an on-the-job accident had he simply reported his injury within 48 hours instead of waiting a week. Things like that. I'm always making sure I do things like keep receipts, review credit card statements, and watch what creeps into my college transcripts, because it's the little things that can screw our lives up so badly. All the more so for therapists, the authors believe, because of their heavy responsibility to safeguard their clients' welfare, and because unfortunately their training doesn't seem to prepare them for some types of potential legal trouble. *** As part of that approach, this book takes an interesting departure from other literature on mental health ethics.

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