

THE LAW OF CHURCH AND STATE IN AMERICA

About This Publication

“I am racing terminal cancer to finish my five-volume *magnum opus*, and do not have time to diddle with these matters repetitiously.” So wrote the Rev. Dean M. Kelley on May 3, 1997, to a religious official in an effort to obtain permission to use quoted material. Eight days later, May 11, 1997, Mr. Kelley passed away, and necessarily surrendered what would be done with his manuscript to others.

For more than twenty years before his death, Mr. Kelley had labored on *The Law of Church and State in America*. He had found a publisher, Greenwood Press, which had cut his massive manuscript down from its original size to five volumes of approximately five hundred pages each. Church-state experts had commented on draft chapters. Copyediting under Greenwood Press was close to complete, and Greenwood Press had advertised the forthcoming publication for sale in the fall of 1997.

Following Mr. Kelley’s death, there was an initial sense that the text should be modified to reflect ongoing legal developments. As time passed, the process of updating such an enormous work became increasingly monumental, and Greenwood Press finally cancelled the project.

The opportunity for online publication rescued a masterpiece from oblivion. The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center agreed to make the work available on its website. Lenore Hervey, the only child of Mr. Kelley and his wife of over fifty years, Maryon, generously agreed to provide the work freely for online use. A decision was made to limit editorial intervention to addressing gaps identified by the author or publisher, without attempting to interpret subsequent developments as Mr. Kelley might have done. Rev. N. J. (Skip) L’Heureux Jr. made his electronic copy of the complete manuscript available, and Marc D. Stern, Esq., having done some editing, provided a hard copy of certain changes that had been requested by Greenwood Press. Katie Chase, who had copyedited the manuscript for Greenwood Press, agreed to finalize the copyediting. Yuna Lyons provided general editing, permissions, and promotional services. Paul A. Clewell, Esq., performed case law research on a *pro bono* basis. The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA made computer and photocopying equipment available.

The object of this initial posting has been to make a keyword searchable PDF copy of this encyclopedic text freely available. A computer-generated table of authorities is anticipated for each chapter, and tables prepared by the author may be added in draft form or as finalized. Readers are encouraged to download this copyrighted publication for personal or educational use, and to quote passages of any length, with attribution.

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