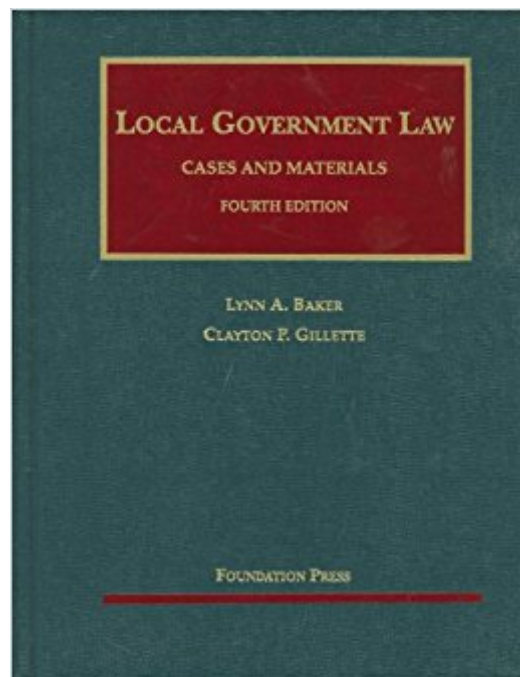




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Synopsis

The Fourth Edition considers the unique role that local governments play in the federal system. The book asks about the distinct characteristics of local governments that distinguish them from other levels of government. The materials then explore three relationships involving local governments: the relationship between the locality and the state, the relationship between the locality and its residents, and the relationship between the locality and its neighbors. The new edition discusses recent developments in the relationship between the federal government and states and localities, including: the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in *Riegel v. Medtronic* (2008), *Good v. Altria Group* (2009), and *Levine v. Wyeth* (2009) concerning the federal preemption of state law; the 6th Circuit's decision in *School District of Pontiac v. Secretary of the U.S. Dept of Education* (2009), involving the No Child Left Behind Act and unfunded federal mandates to states and school districts; and the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Gonzales v. Raich* (2005), affirming Congress's power under the Commerce Clause to prohibit states from authorizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes. The fourth edition also includes new materials concerning the role of local governments in local economic development.

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Fairly interesting class, but not a lot of cases. This casebook is rather short, and it does not contain very many cases. The cases it does contain are very long. The rest of the book is mostly articles. I enjoyed the class, but I was not happy paying so much for this casebook.

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