

of 2016, about 675,000 people have died of HIV/AIDS in the USA since the beginning of the HIV epidemic.

Criminalization of potential HIV exposure is largely a matter of state law, although some federal legislation addresses criminalization in specific areas, such as blood donation. An analysis by CDC and Department of Justice researchers found that, by 2011, a total of 67 laws explicitly focused on persons living with HIV had been enacted in 33 states.³ These laws vary as to what behaviors are criminalized or result in additional penalties. In 24 states, laws require persons who are aware that they have HIV to disclose their status to sexual partners and 14 states require disclosure to needle-sharing partners. Twenty-five states criminalize one or more behaviors that pose a low or negligible risk for HIV transmission.

For further information, see:

www.cdc.gov/hiv/policies/law/states/exposure.html

www.avert.org/professionals/hiv-around-world/western-central-europe-north-america/usa

<http://www.hivlawandpolicy.org/>

Research Guides:

pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADM001.pdf

library.law.yale.edu/research/guides/resources/aids-law-project

Secondary Sources and Self-Help Books:

Jasper, Margaret C. **AIDS Law**. 3d ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. 208 p. Hardbound. Legal Almanac Series.

Cost: \$47; from \$3.25 (print) on amazon.com.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is an infectious disorder that suppresses the normal function of the immune system. It is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which destroys the body's ability to fight infections. Specific cells of the immune system that are responsible for the proper response to infections (T cells) are destroyed by this virus. Since its first appearance in the United States in the early 1980's, AIDS has become an epidemic of significant proportions. According to the Center for Disease Control, of the 37,600 new cases reported in the U.S. in 2014, 2,800 (7%) were among people who

use drugs, 8,600 (23%) were among homosexuals, and 26,200 (70%) were among gay and bisexual men, although there has been a decline in new cases in recent years. An estimated 1,122,900 adults and adolescents were living with HIV at the end of 2015. Of those, 162,500 (15%) had not received a diagnosis. This volume explores the legal ramifications of the AIDS epidemic, including an individual's employment rights, education, health care, and insurance under various federal, state and local laws. The author provides an overview of the medical aspects of AIDS, the testing procedures, and some of the currently available treatments. She also examines the controversy over mandatory testing, reporting and partnership notification, as well as the discrimination faced by sufferers. Margaret Jasper is an attorney engaged in the general practice of law in South Salem, New York, concentrating in the areas of personal injury and entertainment law. She is a graduate of Pace University School of Law.

ANIMAL LAW

Animal law is an evolving field that embraces the full range of matters involving domestic pets or other animals, whether they are used for companionship, food, research, and entertainment; or are wild animals at the state, federal, or international levels. It also involves the promotion of animal protection and welfare through legal reform.

Animal law is a combination of statutory, regulatory, and case law, both State and federal, and International conventions, which is becoming a bona fide field of its own. Animal-related issues, however, permeate many traditional areas of law, including torts, contracts, domestic relations, criminal law, environmental law, and Constitutional law. Animal law involves veterinarian practice, animal treatment, housing disputes and discrimination against pet owners, tort actions for wrongful death or injury to an animal companion, enforceable trusts for companions, and criminal actions for domestic violence and animal cruelty, among others.