

PREFACE

2025-2026 EDITION

Kentucky Products Liability Law discusses topics relevant to both the consumer and the producer or seller within the still-evolving area of Kentucky products liability law.

It is, of course, difficult to prepare a text that covers all areas of a topic like Products Liability. Such a topic covers a broad range of law issues such as torts, contracts, property damage, common law, statutory construction, and others. This work, however, attempts to cover that broad range of topics in Kentucky.

The first edition of this book appeared in 1981. That was shortly after the General Assembly passed a comprehensive Products Liability Act in 1978. It was also before the general use of Westlaw for research and computers for preparation of manuscript. That early edition required the help of many people in getting it into final form. My wife, Lillian Eades, listened to me talk about ideas for the book and proofread the final manuscript. I again thank her for that support.

In 2003, the book was adopted for publication by West. That group was ultimately made a part of Thomson Reuters/West. It was necessary to completely revise the work and make it a part of the larger Thomson Reuters/West publications list. The fine editors of that company have done a wonderful and helpful job of continuing to improve the book.

Kentucky Products Liability Law is now updated on an annual basis. It was a book that was created in the 20th century, but will, hopefully, continue to serve the lawyers and judges in Kentucky well into the 21st century.

The material in this edition is current through the date noted below. Highlights in this 2025-2026 Edition include:

- New case on Kentucky Liability Act § 1:7 footnote 3.
- New case on limiting defendants § 2:7 footnote 2.
- New material and case on services § 2:13 footnote 3.
- New cases on plaintiff must prove defect § 10:2 footnote 1.
- New case on expert witnesses § 10:7 footnote 1.
- New case on the use of expert witnesses § 10:7 footnote 2.
- New case qualifications of expert witnesses § 10:7 footnote 10.

Ronald W. Eades
August 2025