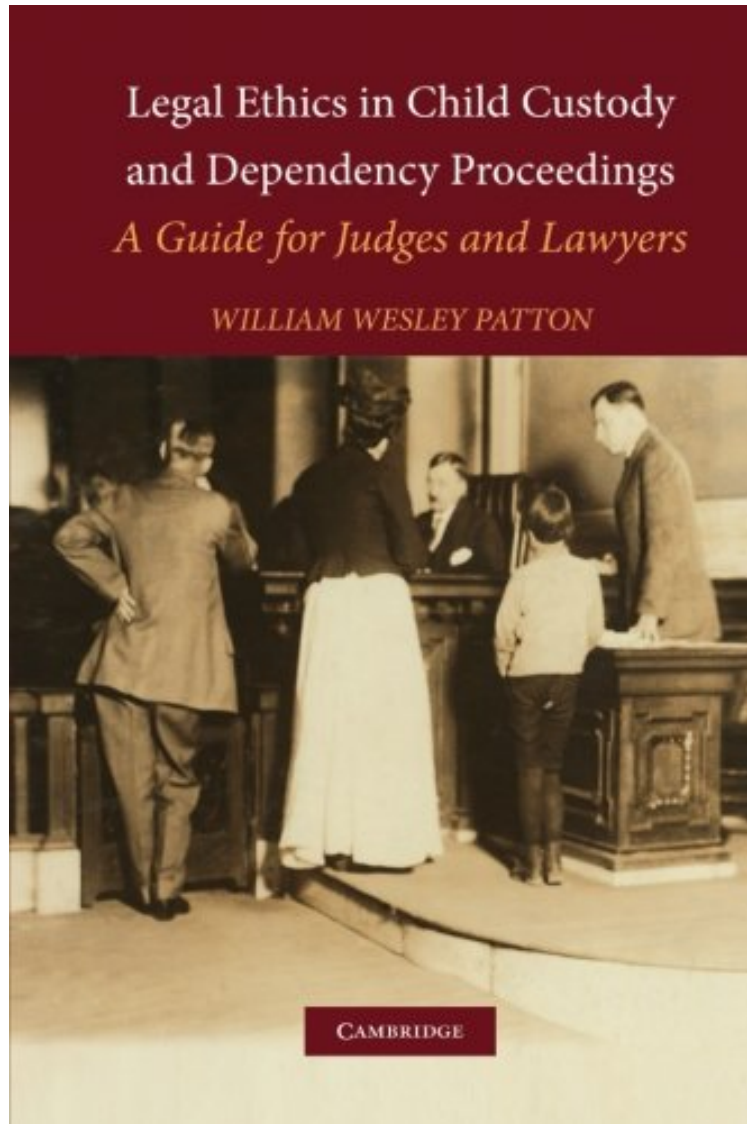


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This 2006 book provides a fully annotated discussion of the ethical universe surrounding state-mandated and private legal disputes involving the custody and best interest of children. It surveys thousands of court cases, statutes, state bar ethics codes, Attorney General opinions and model codes regarding ethical constraints in family and dependency proceedings. The book not only analyzes ethical rules in terms of the chronology of these proceedings, it also surveys those principles for each of the primary participants - children's counsel, parents' counsel, government attorneys and judges. The book contains chapters on pre-hearing alternative dispute resolution, motion and trial practice, appellate procedures and separation of powers. Finally, the book provides a complete child abuse case file with a comprehensive analysis of the inherent ethical issues.

About the Author William W. Patton received his B.A. from California State University and his M.A. and J.D. from University of California, Los Angeles. He is the founding Director of the Center for Children's Rights and Legal Policy Clinic. He is also the Deputy State Public Defender and is the Assistant and Associate Dean of Whittier Law School. He has written many articles and books on the topic of juvenile justice and juvenile law advocacy.