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Appendix C:

General Categories of the ACLU / U.S. Supreme Court Cases

The ACLU / U.S. Supreme Court cases generally fit the four main categories below (with the subcategories added), but given the nature of the law and litigation, a case may fit into more than one category and subcategory. For that reason, I have not attempted to explicitly categorize the cases.

1. 1st Amendment

- A. Obscenity: Cases in this category deal with the limits of the freedom to engage in “obscene” and offensive speech.
- B. Defamation: Cases involving libelous publication and slanderous utterances against individuals.
- C. Religion: Cases involving the free exercise of religion and the prohibition of the establishment of an official religion.
- D. Press, Speech, Association: Cases in this category involve the freedoms of speech, the press, and association.

2. Criminal Justice

- A. 4th Amendment: Cases involving the limits of protection against unwarranted searches and seizures.
- B. Criminal Procedure: Includes the 5th and 6th Amendments, as well as criminal trial procedure under the 14th Amendment.
- C. 8th Amendment: Cases involving the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.
- D. Death Penalty: Cases involving a sentence to death.
- E. Drugs: Cases where narcotics are the issue or cause of the arrest.
- F. Prison: Cases involving inmate rights, prison conditions, and the parole process.