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**FORTHCOMING: LOUISIANA CIVIL CODE COMMENTARY
(JOURNAL OF CIVIL LAW STUDIES)**

*“Louisiana still does not have what
every advanced civil law jurisdiction has,
a commentary on the entire Civil Code”*

A.N. Yiannopoulos, *Louisiana Civil Law: A Lost Cause?*¹

In civil-law jurisdictions, a most useful and popular tool in the arsenal of lawyers, judges, law professors, and students is the commentary of the civil code, presented in a series of volumes providing needed information concerning the derivation, meaning, interpretation, and application of each article of the civil code.

Previous attempts to introduce this form of writing to Louisiana readers² have received praise by scholars as an analytical and didactic contribution.³ Nevertheless, a comprehensive commentary is still missing from the bookshelves of the Louisiana law libraries. It is the intention of the undersigned Co-Editors to fill this void.

The *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* is an ambitious multi-issue project for an article-by-article commentary on the entire Louisiana Civil Code that will be published in the Journal of Civil Law Studies under the auspices of the Center of Civil Law Studies of the LSU Law Center. This systematic elaboration on each article includes:

1. The *text* of each article in force.
2. Review of the *historical derivation* of each article with references to the Digest of the Civil Laws of 1808, the Civil Codes

1. 54 TUL. L. REV. 830, 844-45 (1980).

2. See Symeon Symeonides & Wendell Holmes, *Representation, Mandate, and Agency: A Kommentar on Louisiana's New Law*, 73 TUL. L. REV. 1087 (1999); Symeon Symeonides & Nicole Durante Martin, *The New Law of Co-Ownership: A Kommentar*, 68 TUL. L. REV. 69 (1993); Symeon Symeonides, *One Hundred Footnotes to the New Law of Possession and Acquisitive Prescription*, 44 LA. L. REV. 69 (1983).

3. See Katherine Shaw Spaht, *Co-Ownership of Former Community Property: A Primer on the New Law*, 56 LA. L. REV. 677, introductory footnote (“The form of the Kommentar facilitates its use by lawyers and scholars through systematic treatment of the law in article by article commentary”).

of 1825 and 1870, the Louisiana Constitution, and the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

3. *Discussion* on the meaning of each article and its application by Louisiana and Federal Courts, and *critical review* of leading cases and pertinent legal literature, including treatises and law review articles.

4. References to *Conflict of Laws and Comparative Law*, including the provisions of Book IV of the Louisiana Civil Code, sections of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, controlling judicial decisions, and foreign civil codes and treatises.

5. References to pertinent Louisiana *procedural legislation* and comments on the treatment of such procedural issues by the Louisiana and Federal Courts.

The first issue of the *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* focuses on the Preliminary Title of the Louisiana Civil Code (articles 1-14), and it will be published in the Journal of Civil Law Studies. As the project progresses, additional issues will be published in future volumes of the Journal, making it an open-access project. Once completed, a consolidated version will be published in printed form. The Co-Editors of the *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* will assign specific sets of articles to specialists, such as law professors and members of the judiciary and bar. The dedicated student editors of the Journal of Civil Law Studies will also contribute to this ambitious and long-term project. The Co-Editors of the *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* look forward to the publication of the first issue and they welcome any feedback or suggestions.

The Co-Editors are:

Professor Nikolaos Davrados, LSU Law Center

Professor Olivier Moréteau, LSU Law Center

Professor Agustín Parise, Maastricht University Faculty of Law.

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