

FEOFFMENT (fef'-ment). An early mode of conveyance, by which the possession of a freehold estate was transferred by the technical ceremony of livery of seisin.

FEOFFMENT TO USE (fef'-ment to uze). The feoffment or transfer of lands to a person for the benefit of another.

FEOFFER (fef-or'). The person who makes a feoffment.

FERAE NATURAE (fee'-ree na-tu'-ree). Untamed; animals in their wild state or regarded as unclaimed for ownership.

FEUD (fude). A fee; a hereditary right to use lands, payment for which was rendered in services to the lord, with ownership of the land retained by the lord.

FEUDAL (fu'-dal). Pertaining or relating to the feudal system, feudal law, or the form of land tenure under which the land is held under a superior or lord.

FIAT (fy'-at). Latin for "let it be done." An order or warrant from a judge or some other competent authority, directing that some particular act be done.

FICTION (fick'-shun). A legal assumption that something is true even though it may be false.

FICTITIOUS (fick-tish'-us). Feigned; imaginary; pretended; having the character of a fiction.

FICTITIOUS ACTION (fick-tish'-us ak'-shun). An action based on a pretended controversy for the purpose of obtaining the opinion of the court on a matter of law.

FICTITIOUS PARTY (fick-tish'-us par'-tee). A party in whose name an action may be brought but who is ignorant of it or has not authorized it.

FICTITIOUS PAYEE (fick-tish'-us pay-ee'). Any designation of a payee in a negotiable instrument who is non-existent or who was not intended to receive the instrument in the first place. The instrument in such case is considered as payable to bearer.

FIDUCIARY (fi-du'-shi-ar-re). Relating to or founded upon a trust or confidence. A trustee or one who holds a thing in trust for another.

FIEF (feef). A fee, feud, or inheritable estate.

FIERI FACIAS (fy'-e-ry fay'-she-as). (Abbreviated as fi. fa.) In Latin the meaning is that you cause to be made. A writ of execution directing the sheriff to levy upon the goods and chattels of a debtor to satisfy a judgment.

FILIUS (fil'-i-us). A son; a child.

FIN (fin). End; limit; termination; expiration; objective.

FINAL (fy'-nal). Last; conclusive; decisive; with respect to suits and judgments, it is contrasted with interlocutory.

FINDING (fine'-ding). The conclusion arrived at by a court or jury as to a matter before it.

FIXTURE (ficks'-chur). Anything in the nature of a personal chattel that is fixed or attached to land or a building and is used in connection with it.

FLOTSAM (flot'-sum). Goods floating upon the sea, cast overboard for the safety of a ship or freed when a ship sinks.

FORBEARANCE (for-bare'-ans). Refraining from action; a delay in enforcing rights.

FORCE (fors). Compulsion; strength directed to an end, ordinarily unlawful; violence; physical coercion.

FORCED SALE (forst sale). One made against the will or consent of the owner; a sale made pursuant to law by virtue of execution issued on a judgment rendered by a court.

FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER (for'-sibl en'-tre and de-tane'-er). An action to restore possession of land to one who is wrongfully kept out or deprived of possession.

FORECLOSURE (for-klo'-zhur). A proceeding in chancery by which the mortgagor's equity of redemption is forever barred and the mortgaged premises becomes the absolute property of the mortgagee. Any proceeding to enforce a mortgage, lien, or pledge.

FOREIGN (for'-en). Belonging to or related to another country, state, or jurisdiction.

FOREMAN (for'-man). The presiding member and spokesman of a jury. Overseer or one appointed by an employer to supervise the work of employees.

FORENSIC or **FORENSIS** (fo-ren'-sick) or (foren'-sis). Belonging to or relating to courts of law.

FORENSIC MEDICINE (fo-ren'-sick med'-isin). Medical jurisprudence or the application of medical knowledge to legal causes.

FORFEITURE (for'-fi-chure). A penalty or fine; a loss of a right in consequence of the non-performance of some obligation or condition.

FORGERY (for'-jer-ee). The fraudulent making and alteration of a writing to the prejudice of another person's rights. The fraudulent alteration of evidence to create an erroneous impression.

FORM (form). The technique, manner, or order of a legal proceeding or instrument, as distinguished from the substance of it. A model or bare outline of a legal instrument to be completed or followed in describing the substance or details of a specific matter.

FORMER JEOPARDY (for'-mer jep'-ar-dee). A plea to keep one from being tried for the same offense a second time.

FORMS OF ACTION (forms of ak'-shun). A term comprising all of the various classes of personal actions at common law, such as trespass, case, trover, detinue, replevin, covenant, debt, assumpsit, and account.

FORNICATION (for-ni-kay'-shun). Unlawful sexual intercourse between two persons with at least the guilty one or the one charged with the crime being unmarried.

FORSWEAR (for-sware'). To swear falsely; to commit perjury.

FORTHCOMING BOND (forth'-kum-ing bond). A bond conditioned upon the delivery or restoration of property, if required by a judgment, and given to obtain the release of the property from levy or attachment.

FORTUITOUS (for-two'-i-tus). Depending on or happening by chance; accidental; casual.

FORUM (for'-um). A court or place of justice; a place; jurisdiction.

FRANCHISE (fran'-chize). A privilege or immunity, other than a common right, conferred by the government upon an individual or individuals for a prescribed purpose. A right or privilege conferred by law.

FRANCHISE TAX (fran'-chize taks). A tax on the franchise of a corporation or on the right of operating as a corporation.

FRAUD (frawd). Bad faith, dishonesty, infidelity, unfairness. Any form of misrepresentation, trickery, concealment, or cunning by which a person may intend and does obtain an advantage over another.

FREEHOLD (free'-hold). An estate in land or in some interest connected or annexed to land of an indefinite duration, as a life estate or one in fee.

FRIENDLY SUIT (frend'-lee sute). Any suit instituted by an agreement between the parties to obtain a ruling of the court upon some matter in which they are interested.

FRUCTUS (fruk'tus). That which results or is added to a thing by nature or the skill of man.

FRUCTUS CIVILES (fruk'-tus siv'-i-leez). Civil fruits, recognized by the law as natural increases to a thing, such as rents, interests, revenues, and compensations.

FRUCTUS INDUSTRIALES (fruk'-tus in-dustri-ay'-leez). Those products of the soil that grow annually as the result of the planting and cultivation of land by man.

FRUCTUS NATURALES (fruk'-tus na-tu-ray'-leez). Those products of nature that develop by themselves, as perennial plants, trees, wool, metals, milk, the young of animals and the fruit of trees.

FUNGIBLE (fun'-ji-bl). Pertaining to articles that are consumed by use and that can be placed in kind, such as wheat, corn, coal, oil, etc.

FUTURE ESTATE or **INTEREST** (few'-ture estate' or in'-ter-est). An interest or estate that is to commence in possession in the future, such as remainders and reversions.

FUTURES (few'-tures). Contracts for the sale and future delivery of stocks or commodities, actual delivery usually not being intended, with payment of the difference in market price at time set for delivery taking the place of delivery, the transaction thereby being largely a gamble.

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GAIN (gane). Profit; benefit, winnings.

GAMBLE (gam'bl). To play for money or other stake; to bet on an uncertain event.

GAME LAWS (game laws). Laws regulating the killing or capture of birds and beast as game.

GAMING (game'-ing). Gambling; a contract between two or more persons to risk money or other property in any contest of chance.

GAOL (jale). Same as jail; a place for imprisonment of criminals.

GARNISHEE (gar-ni-shee'). The person against whom process of garnishment is issued. To institute garnishment proceedings.

GARNISHMENT (gar'-nish-ment). The process by which a person who has money or property belonging to another or owes him a debt is warned not to repay such person because of attachment of such property for the payment of a debt due a third party.

GAVELKIND (gav'-el-kind). The tenure by which lands in England were held prior to the Conquest, its chief distinction being that the land descended to all sons together rather than to the eldest.

GENERAL (jen'-er-al). Prevalent; extensive; pertaining to an entire kind of class. The principal officer of any army.

GENERAL AVERAGE (jen'-er-al av'-er-aj). A contribution by all parties in a sea voyage to reimburse one for loss incurred in saving the ship or cargo from some impending danger.

GENERAL ISSUE (jen'-er-al ish'-oo). A plea by the defendant amounting to an absolute denial of the entire indictment or declaration, thus reaching an issue at once.

GENUINE (jen'-u-in). True; real; not false, spurious, simulated, or counterfeit.

GESTATION (jes-tay'-shun). The duration of pregnancy in a female.

GIFT (gift). A voluntary conveyance of land, or transfer of goods, from one person to another, made gratuitously and without recompense.

GIFT CAUSA MORTIS (gift kaw'-za mor'-tis). A gift of personal property made by a person in expectation of his own death, the property passing fully to the donee upon the death of the donor anticipated.