

## **Penal Code Analysis Assignment**

Read and analyze Sections 9.31 through 9.44 of the Texas Penal Code. Write a paper explaining the law of self-defense and defense of property in Texas. Don't just copy the penal code, but give a general analysis of the statute, what the principal points are, and what the general intent and purpose of the statute appears to be.

When, in general, can a person defend themselves? When can they use deadly force to defend themselves? What kind of force can they use to protect their property? Under what general circumstances?

This is the kind of assignment that should be as long as is necessary to answer the above questions, but I imagine a paper between 2-4 pages would suffice. Be as creative as you think appropriate. Some students have done the assignment in the form of a memo to the Chief of Police. Others have done it as a brochure on self-defense handed out by the Department of Public Safety. Many simply did it in a straightforward research paper style. It is up to you.

This assignment is due on Thursday, October 9 and is worth 50 points, or 5% of your grade.