

Abstract

Honorable Janet Reno

Introduction: Recent Developments Federal Agency Focus: The Department of Justice

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Abstract by Sanford A. Fine

In this *Introduction*, the Honorable Janet Reno discusses the role of the Department of Justice in administrative law. Reno contends that the DOJ plays a special role in the field of administrative law because it is involved in many of the facets of regulation. The DOJ promulgates regulations and provides administrative adjudication of disputes. The DOJ also enforces, in federal courts, the regulatory provisions and programs of other government agencies. Finally, Reno describes how the DOJ acts as the government's law firm, thus defending the administrative activities of other agencies against challenge.

Reno cites several examples of the DOJ's regulatory activities. For example, the DOJ is involved in gun control regulations, as well as regulating controlled substances with the Drug Enforcement Agency. Reno discusses the role of the DOJ in administrative adjudication through its role with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Next, the author discusses DOJ's role as the primary enforcer of regulatory and statutory compliance. The DOJ is involved with litigation concerning every agency, from Health and Human Services to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Finally, Reno concludes by affirming her one of her mission's at the DOJ, which is to enable the law to serve those who cannot access or afford it. The author details several of the ways that the DOJ is acting to broaden the reach of administrative law and the justice system, as well improving the availability of the legal system for all citizens.