

# Criminal Law History & Development

## Code of Hammurabi

set of legal codes from Babylon

## Common Law

law established by previous judicial rulings and customs

## Stare Decisis

Latin for “to stand by decisions”

## Precedent

event or action which serves as a guide for future events or actions

## Constitution

document which provides rules dictating how the government may function as well as how it can create and enforce laws

## Statutes

written codes defining a criminal act and providing the standard punishment for the crime

## Arson

act of purposefully setting an object or structure on fire

## Administrative Rule

law established by previous judicial rulings and customs

## Amendment

change or addition to a constitution

## Case Law

law established by previous judicial rulings

## Bill

first draft of a potential law

## Sentencing

process of determining how a criminal activity will be punished

## Mens Rea

guilty mind

## Actus Reus

guilty act

# Criminal Law History & Development

## Concurrence

guilty act and a guilty mind occurring at the same time

## Burden of Proof

amount of proof required to determine someone is guilty

## Felony

serious offense which is punishable with more than a year in jail

## Misdemeanor

lesser criminal offense which is punishable with up to a year in jail

## Warrant

document signed by an impartial judge who decides there is enough information proving a search or seizure should occur

## Probable Cause

reasonable grounds for making a decision

## Due Process

fair treatment in a normal court

## Indictment

act of being charged with a crime

## Punitive

punishment-oriented