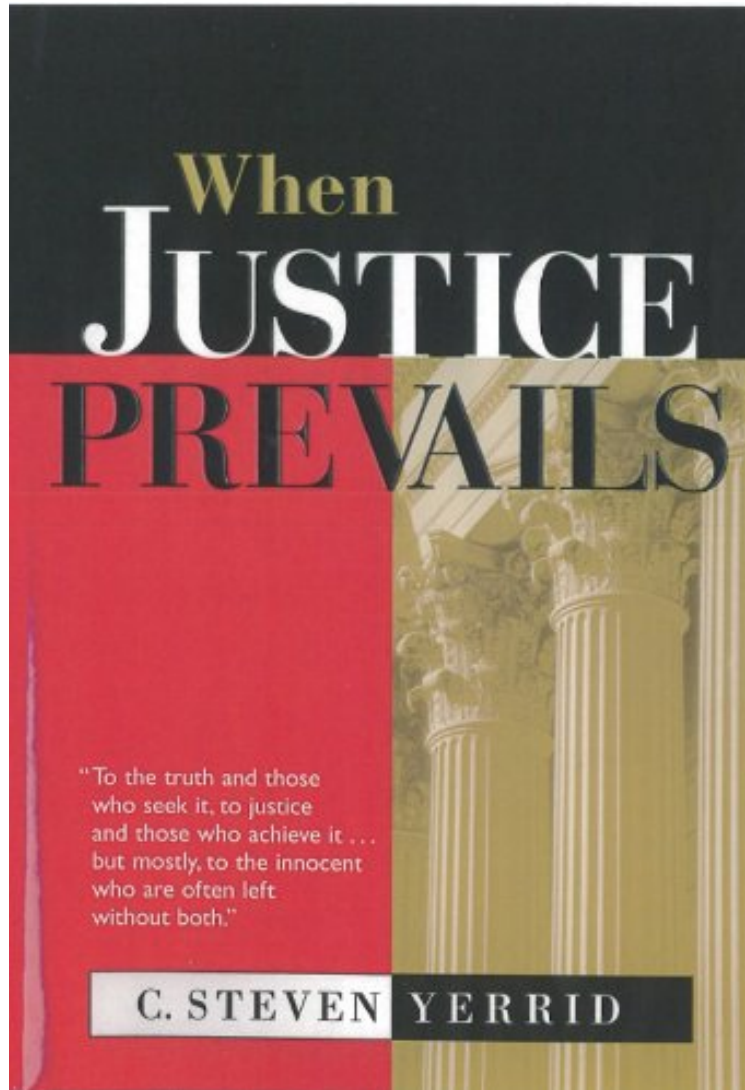


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When Justice Prevails

C. Steven Yerrid

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C. Steven Yerrid : When Justice Prevails before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised When Justice Prevails:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Compelling tales by a dedicated advocate for the put upon By Bart Motes C. Steven Yerrid, one of Florida's most successful attorneys, shares some tricks of the trade and some fascinating stories in this compelling book. A while ago, in order to fulfill some mandatory legal education requirements, I watched a lecture by Mr. Yerrid. I quickly realized I was witnessing an emotional intelligence off the scales. Known for his mastery of juries, in When Justice Prevails, Yerrid demonstrates the traits I observed in that lowly continuing legal education video and tells some interesting stories along the way. Structurally, the book

describes eight cases that Yerrid tried. Five of them were personal injury cases in which Yerrid was able to take some difficult situations and come up big for his clients. The book is bounded by Yerrid's early career name making defense of the pilot of the ship that crashed into Tampa's Skyway bridge in 1980 and his recent representation, along with a number of other eminent lawyers, of the State of Florida against the tobacco companies. A fascinating intellectual property dispute on behalf of the "Voice of God" fills out the book. You'll have to read it to find what that one's about. There is previous little autobiographical information in the book apart from brief but heartfelt evocations of Yerrid's mom and dad. We do learn that Yerrid went to Georgetown Law (where he now teaches) and that his first job out of law school was with one of Florida's most prominent firms, Holland and Knight. But his life at Holland and Knight, career as a young lawyer, and how he ended up leaving the firm and starting his own small practice are all left to the imagination. A few mentors and collaborators pop up in these pages are given generous treatment by Yerrid, but we otherwise learn very little about Yerrid's broader biography. Yerrid's book left me re-inspired to practice law. Why? Yerrid's passion for justice may be a little hokey to cynical folks, but it is grounded in specific justice for people who have suffered horrible misfortunes, not abstract, airy principles. He may have hurt a number of bottom lines, but he's saved quite a few bottoms. Although Yerrid doesn't go into line and verse of his whole trial strategy, the closing arguments included here (which he lightly annotates) provide a consistent master class on the way to focus a jury's attention on what's important to a plaintiff. His use of a framing techniques in story telling radiates through the page. I can only imagine how they went in person. In conclusion, this insightful book is good reading for aspiring lawyers and for lawyers that need a bit of inspiration. The flaws are mostly of omission, and only lead one to hope that the old boy has another book in him. It's not flawless, of course. Although the book was compelling enough for me to read through in a single cross coastal plane ride, Yerrid is a bit clumsy in the opening of the book and quite abrupt in the ending. It is also worth noting that the book is an extremely episodic look at a few cases. Yerrid communicates his passion for justice effectively, but the other aspects of his life are not explored in any kind of detail. I'm glad Yerrid wrote it and I think you'll be glad to read it. Recommended. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Credo to human spirit's endurance

By A Customer Yerrid reels you right in, detail after vivid detail. You get inside his head and to the heart of the common thread in all his cases -- the nearly indomitable strength of the human spirit. Not only is it fascinating how his clients' heart-wrenching stories came to be his legal cases in the first place, but the way he builds and executes his strategies lets you see firsthand the way a top gun lawyer thinks and maneuvers. There are poignant parts, whole sections that will compell you to read on faster and faster, and Yerrid's verbatim closing remarks are phenomenal -- expressive, emotionally charged... just brilliant. I'm not a lawyer and have never worked anywhere near the field. But what this is is an incredible opportunity for us as Americans to see the justice system at work for the people, written by someone who's clearly mastered it and is in it for the good guys.

C. Steven Yerrid became a trial lawyer to make a difference. In an impressive career that spans more than twenty-five years, he has done just that. While successfully litigating virtually all types of civil cases, Yerrid has been the champion of those without the money and power usually necessary to battle corporate giants and win. In *WHEN JUSTICE PREVAILS* (Yorkville Press; July 2003; \$26.95 hardcover), Steve Yerrid presents eight of his most dramatic and challenging cases. Although they involve many different areas of the law - from the State of Florida's landmark case against "Big Tobacco," to medical malpractice, personal injury, product liability, maritime catastrophe, and intellectual property law they all share a common thread. Yerrid states, "Each one is a testament to the endurance of the human spirit. It is reflected in the victims ability to overcome personal tragedy and loss, as well as in the jurors struggle to find the truth and deliver a just verdict." A page-turning work of legal nonfiction, *WHEN JUSTICE PREVAILS* depicts in vivid detail the dramatic, often heartbreaking stories of Yerrid's clients. Writing compellingly about his own thoughts as he decides to take on each case, Yerrid offers insight into how he builds and executes his legal strategies, from opening remarks to the verbatim presentations of his emotionally charged closing arguments. Rarely have readers been given such direct access to all the fascinating moments of real-life trials the sparring of the lawyers, the testimony of the witnesses, the turning points of cross-examination, and the behind-the-scenes maneuverings of both Yerrid and his opponents.

.... absorbing reading for trial fans, inside details, real-life testimony, closing arguments, insight into how good trial lawyers think ... --Library Journal, July 3, 2003

About the Author Steve Yerrid is recognized as one of America's top trial lawyers. Throughout his career he has distinguished himself as a passionate victims advocate. As a jury trial lawyer, he has obtained numerous million-dollar verdicts and settlements for individuals who have been injured or killed by the negligence of others. In 1995, he was invited to join the elite eleven-member legal team of private lawyers to help the State of Florida fight "Big Tobacco," a challenge of insurmountable measure. The tobacco industry settled for the largest monetary settlement in history at that time. Mr. Yerrid is the Chairman of the Board of The Yerrid Foundation, a not for profit foundation developed to promote the interests and welfare of public charities, with an emphasis on children's issues. Mr. Yerrid continues his work as a trial lawyer and lives in Tampa, Florida.