

## ***COST OF DECEIT*** ***A Jake Clearwater Legal Thriller***

**By H. Mitchell Caldwell**

***to be released in March 30, 2023***

**Author H. Mitchell Caldwell**

L. A. Sheriff Lieutenant Max Cort is on trial for killing his wife, but how do you try a murder without a body?

This high-profile case has local TV stations scrambling for legal commentary and one invites law professor Jake Clearwater to handle the nightly updates on the hearing. Jake recently gained fame for defending a convicted murderer, gaining him a retrial, exposing the real killer, and getting his client off and released from prison.

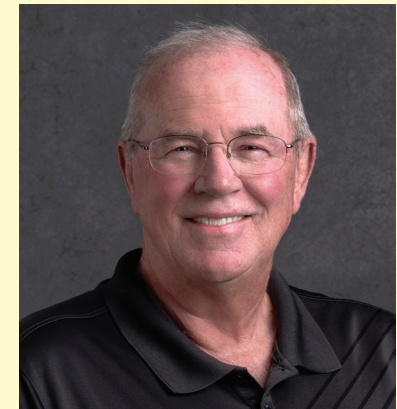
Early in the trial, Jake realizes it's not going the prosecution's way. First, he makes a few comments on TV that catch the District Attorney's attention. Then, with a deadlocked jury, the DA invites Clearwater to talk and asks him to head the retrial team. But Jake has some special requirements before accepting, including services not usually part of the DA's office repertoire but are reluctantly granted. Jake and his team dig deeper into Lieutenant Cort, questioning and confronting both the suspect's alibi and the victim's closest confidants while working with sheriff department investigators to gather more evidence.

As the new trial unfolds, Jake becomes immersed in the muck of Cort's life—obsessive ambition and unbridled brutality. With an expensive, high-power attorney, the defense continues to claim the wife ran away. Can Jake overcome the barriers and win a conviction?

***Cost of Deceit*** is the second book in the award-winning Jake Clearwater Legal Thriller series.

*Learn more at [HMitchellCaldwell.com](http://HMitchellCaldwell.com).*

Media Contact: Kathleen Kaiser  
[Kathleen@kathleenkaiser.com](mailto:Kathleen@kathleenkaiser.com)



H. Mitchell Caldwell is a law professor at Pepperdine Caruso School of Law. He teaches criminal procedure and trial advocacy. Professor Caldwell routinely represents death row inmates appealing their convictions before the California Supreme Court. He has co-authored several trial advocates textbooks as well as the critically acclaimed ***Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury*** series of books. ***COST OF ARROGANCE*** was the first in his Jake Clearwater series of legal thrillers. He resides in Southern California.

### FACTS ABOUT

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### Early Praise for ***COST OF DECEIT***

H. Mitchell Caldwell's ***COST OF DECEIT*** is a well-structured and easy-to-read legal thriller with believable characters, an engaging story and insight into the criminal court system. — *Indie Reader*

### In Praise of ***COST OF ARROGANCE***

Caldwell's work shines in his ability to make the intricacies of the law accessible to laypeople while still satisfying those with legal experience. — *Kirkus Reviews*

This book is a must-read for any fan of courtroom thrillers. There is no stone left unturned when Jake Clearwater takes on a case. — *San Francisco Book Review*

"As a former prosecutor myself, I appreciated how the book accurately portrays trial proceedings, including a realistic approach to cross-examination and an insightful view of the different ways prosecutors and defense attorneys approach a case and present their evidence."—Darren Shulman, Ohio Lawyer, *Ohio State Bar Association Journal*