

Introduction to Law
Chapter 12 Introduction
“The Fourth Amendment”

Name:
Date:

Directions:

Examine each of the following situations. Decide whether the search violates the Fourth Amendment and whether the evidence seized can be used in court. Explain your decision.

1. The police see Dell standing at a bus stop on a downtown street, in an area where there is extensive drug dealing. They stop and search him and find drugs in his pocket.

2. After Brandon checks out of a hotel, the police ask the hotel manager to turn over the contents of the wastebasket, where they find notes planning a murder.

3. Jill’s former boyfriend breaks into her apartment and looks through her desk for love letters. Instead he finds drugs, which he turns over to the police.

4. Terry is on a bus traveling from Miami to New York City. Three police officers board the bus wearing “RAID” jackets, and Terry can see that at least one is carrying a gun. One officer stands in the front of the bus partially blocking the aisle, while the other two officers eye the passengers, pick out Terry, and ask him for identification and his ticket. After returning both to him without comment, they then ask Terry for permission to search his luggage. He gives his permission. The officers open his bag and find cocaine.

5. Pamela is observed shoplifting items in a store. Police chase Pamela into her apartment building and arrest her outside the closed door of her apartment. A search of the apartment reveals a large quantity of stolen merchandise.

6. Sandi is suspected of receiving stolen goods. The police go to her apartment and ask Claire, her roommate, if they can search the apartment. Claire gives permission, and they find stolen items in Sandi’s dresser.
