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ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF A JURY TRIAL IN AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEM

Summary

Jury trial is one of the fundamental right in American legal system. It is not, however, a new concept that emerged with independence of the United States. Although, it is impossible to trace exact origins of this right to one particular legal system, some similarities in the doctrine of law, organization of a legal system or the state structure can be found in selected countries. This article does not aim to present a thorough analysis of every institution with jurors involvement in criminal and civil law that have existed throughout the centuries in every country but to present the most important issues of the trial by jury that led to development of the modern jury trial in American legal system.

Key words: jury, jurors, jury trial, trial by jury