

## **8.1 Scope of Chapter**

This chapter offers guidance on issues of race that may arise at trial, and the extent to which defense attorneys can and should address racial dynamics at trial. For example, the chapter addresses voir dire, and how counsel may raise relevant issues of race in order to evaluate bias on the part of potential jurors. The chapter also addresses evidentiary matters such as impeaching a witness with evidence of bias and the admissibility of lay and expert witness opinion testimony on matters such as gang activities or the racial makeup of neighborhoods. Other topics include the legality of making references to race in opening statements and in closing arguments, and jury instructions that counsel may propose to mitigate potential racial bias.