

North Carolina Defender Manual

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Volume One Pretrial

2013–
with updated chapters

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Preface to the Second Edition

At long last, the second edition of the first volume of the North Carolina Defender Manual—devoted to the intricacies of pretrial criminal procedure—is complete. We have been posting revised chapters online during the past few years as we finished each one. We are delighted to be able to release a complete edition of the manual, with expanded, updated, and rewritten chapters on the principal areas of pretrial criminal procedure in North Carolina. The manual includes cases decided by the courts through June 30, 2013, and legislation enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly through the end of its 2013 legislative session. Through the continued support of the North Carolina Office of Indigent Defenses Services, we plan on updating the manual periodically online to keep it a current resource.

The manual, which stood alone when it was first released in 1998, is now one of several indigent defense manuals created by the School of Government to support public defenders and private counsel providing representation to people who are accused of crimes or are facing other significant deprivations and cannot afford a lawyer. All are available on the Office of Indigent Defense Services website, www.ncids.org, or on our indigent defense education website, www.sog.unc.edu/node/117. Although the manuals are aimed at helping indigent defenders do their jobs effectively, we also hope they provide a useful, reliable review of the law for everyone working in the court system.

No reference source of this breadth is possible without the assistance and insight of many, many others. Looking back at previous prefaces, we can see how many talented people contributed to the process. For this edition, we want to thank Paige Worsham, now an attorney with the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research, and Christopher Tyner, a research attorney at the School of Government, for their invaluable assistance in the research and writing of this manual. We are grateful to our publications department and the indigent defense education staff for helping to finalize production of the manual. We also want to thank the School of Government for its support of the many indigent defense education efforts we have undertaken over the years. Last, we want to express our appreciation and respect for the many indigent defenders who do this critical and challenging work on behalf of our state's poorest residents.

Comments and suggestions are welcome. If we have made any errors, please let us know. You may reach us at rubin@sog.unc.edu and agrine@sog.unc.edu.

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