

Preface

Ensure student success with the Focus Casebook Series.

THE FOCUS APPROACH

In a law office, when a new associate attorney is being asked to assist a supervising attorney with a legal matter in which the associate has no prior experience, it is common for the supervising attorney to provide the associate with a recently closed case file involving the same legal issues so that the associate can see and learn from the closed file to assist more effectively with the new matter. This experiential approach is at the heart of the *Focus Casebook Series*.

Additional hands-on features, such as Real-Life Applications, Applying the Concepts, and Criminal Procedure in Practice provide more opportunities for critical analysis and application of concepts covered in the chapters. Professors can assign problem-solving questions as well as exercises on drafting documents and preparing appropriate filings.

CONTENT SNAPSHOT

This text is intended to provide readers with a thorough understanding of adjudicative criminal procedure. The book's first two chapters provide a general introduction to the world of criminal procedure. Chapter 1 sets the stage for our study by explaining the differences between substantive criminal law and criminal procedure as well as the differences between the investigative and adjudicative stages of the criminal justice process. This chapter concludes by discussing competing values in criminal procedure as well as the roles of race, class, and gender in criminal law. Chapter 2 focuses on the sources of law that regulate criminal procedure.

The study of adjudicative criminal procedure begins in Chapter 3. Chapters 3 and 4 discuss charging decisions and pretrial release, respectively. Chapter 5 explores two concepts related to case screening (the role of the judge in preliminary hearing systems, as well as the grand jury's case screening and investigative functions). Chapter 6 covers the right to counsel, including the right to effective assistance of counsel in the criminal justice system. Chapter 7 focuses on the defendant's and the prosecution's right to discovery. Chapter 8 covers three specific types of issues commonly argued in pre-trial motions — the appropriate venue and vicinage for the trial, joinder and severance of defendants, and the right to a speedy trial. In Chapter 9 the text addresses guilty pleas and the plea-bargaining process.

Chapter 10 explores several aspects of the criminal trial, including the right to trial by jury, the voir dire and jury selection process, the right to confrontation, and the right against self-incrimination. Sentencing law is addressed in Chapter 11, and Chapter 12 covers the right against double jeopardy. The study of adjudicative criminal procedure concludes with the right to appeal and seek collateral review in Chapter 13.

RESOURCES

Other resources to enrich your class include:

Bloom/Brodin, *Examples & Explanations: Criminal Procedure: The Constitution and the Police*, 10E

Singer/Williams, *Examples & Explanations: Criminal Procedure II: From Bail to Jail*, 5E

Cook/Cook, *Inside Adjudicative Criminal Procedure: What Matters and Why*
Newton, *Criminal Litigation and Legal Issues in Criminal Procedure Readings and Hypothetical Exercises*, 5E

Ask your Aspen Publishing sales representative or visit the Aspen Publishing website to learn more about building the product package that's right for you.