

# Preface

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The authors, both trial judges (now retired), have striven to make these volumes useful in two quite different ways to lawyers and judges involved in criminal cases.

First, the text together with the chapter headings, index, and tables are designed to provide quick recourse to answers to particular questions about most aspects of substantive criminal law, procedure, and evidence, to assist when one is in trial or has limited time for research.

Second, the treatment of these same subjects and the identification of authorities is comprehensive, to provide the more complete material necessary for preparation of briefs and memoranda.

Judge McCarr, who wrote the first edition, was a career prosecutor before he was appointed to the bench. Judge Nordby, who joined the project with the third edition, had been a criminal defense lawyer. Their goal has been to use their disparate experiences at opposite ends of the adversary process, to produce a balanced approach useful both to advocates (the lawyers) and to neutral decision-makers (the judges).

These volumes address virtually all aspects of Minnesota criminal laws, from its sources in the state and federal Constitutions, statutes, rules, and judicial decisions and common law, to the investigative stages, pre-trial proceedings, the trial, and post-conviction proceedings and appeals, as well as the substantive law of all major crimes, and questions of evidence peculiar to criminal cases. Annual supplements embody all pertinent decisions of the Minnesota appellate courts and the United States Supreme Court, as well as new or amended rules, statutes, and ordinances.

JACK NORBDY

June 2012

# **Table of Contents**

## **PART 1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

### **Volume 7**

#### **CHAPTER 1. CONSTITUTIONS AND OTHER SOURCES OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**

##### **A. INTRODUCTION**

§ 1:1 The validity and interpretation of laws

##### **B. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE AND EVIDENCE**

§ 1:2 In general

§ 1:3 The federal constitution

§ 1:4 The Minnesota Constitution

§ 1:5 Legislation

§ 1:6 Judicial decisions

§ 1:7 Attorney general opinions

§ 1:8 Rules of criminal procedure

§ 1:9 Rules of evidence

§ 1:10 District court rule-making power; general rules of practice and local rules

##### **C. SUBSTANTIVE LAW**

§ 1:11 Legislative enactments

§ 1:12 Construction of criminal statutes

§ 1:13 International law

§ 1:14 Standing

## **PART 2. ENCOUNTERING THE SUSPECT: ARRESTS, SEARCHES, CONFESSIONS, IDENTIFICATION**

#### **CHAPTER 2. AN OVERVIEW OF POLICE ENCOUNTERS IN LIGHT OF THE EXCLUSIONARY RULE**

§ 2:1 In general

- § 2:2 The hierarchy of police encounters
- § 2:3 Some related principles

## **CHAPTER 3. “STOPS,” “FRISKS,” “DETENTIONS,” AND OTHER INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS SHORT OF ARREST**

### **A. “STOP AND FRISK”**

- § 3:1 Constitutional basis
- § 3:2 Requisites of a valid “stop and frisk”
- § 3:3 The “reasonableness test”
- § 3:4 Racial profiling
- § 3:5 Scope of the limited search
- § 3:6 Lapse of time between stop and frisk

### **B. OTHER INVESTIGATIVE STOPS AND DETENTIONS**

- § 3:7 Introduction
- § 3:8 Investigative stops on specific and articulable facts
- § 3:9 Investigative stops of vehicles
- § 3:10 Road blocks and spot checks
- § 3:11 No *Miranda* for investigatory detentions
- § 3:12 Passengers and by-standers
- § 3:13 “Stop and identify” statutes
- § 3:14 “Protective sweep” searches
- § 3:15 Foreign nationals

## **CHAPTER 4. ARREST; CUSTODY**

- § 4:1 In general
- § 4:2 Place of arrest: jurisdiction; pursuit
- § 4:3 When an arrest occurs
- § 4:4 Who may arrest
- § 4:5 Warrantless arrests
- § 4:6 Probable cause
- § 4:7 Arrest in a suspect’s home
- § 4:8 Arrest with a warrant; In general
- § 4:9 “Bench” warrants
- § 4:10 Contents of arrest warrant
- § 4:11 The judge’s role
- § 4:12 Execution and return; The “36 hour” rule
- § 4:13 Filing of arrest warrant and supporting papers

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 4:14	Use of summons in lieu of warrant
§ 4:15	Contents of summons
§ 4:16	When defendant must appear in court
§ 4:17	Execution and service of summons
§ 4:18	Remedying defects in warrant or summons
§ 4:19	Use of citation in lieu of arrest or continued custody
§ 4:20	Duty to provide interpreter
§ 4:21	Arrest under law later declared invalid
§ 4:22	Ordering persons out of vehicles
§ 4:23	The consequences of an illegal arrest
§ 4:24	Night arrests
§ 4:25	No constitutional right to be arrested
§ 4:26	Degree of force permitted in arrests
§ 4:27	Resisting unlawful arrest

## CHAPTER 5. SEARCH AND SEIZURE

### A. INTRODUCTION

§ 5:1	In general
§ 5:2	“Search” and “seizure” defined
§ 5:3	The exclusionary rule; its scope and exceptions
§ 5:4	The standard of “reasonableness”
§ 5:5	Property subject to seizure
§ 5:6	Invasion of privacy and standing

### B. WARRANTLESS SEARCHES AND SEIZURES

§ 5:7	The “open fields” doctrine and “curtilage”
§ 5:8	“Plain view” or “plain sight”
§ 5:9	Sense of touch; “plain feel”
§ 5:10	Searches by consent
§ 5:11	Searches by private persons
§ 5:12	Airport searches
§ 5:13	Customs searches
§ 5:14	Jailhouse searches
§ 5:15	Searches by probation or parole officers
§ 5:16	Administrative and regulatory searches and “inspections”
§ 5:17	Search of the home
§ 5:18	Garage searches
§ 5:19	School searches
§ 5:20	Dog sniffs
§ 5:21	Storage unit searches
§ 5:22	Abandoned property
§ 5:23	The accused’s body

- § 5:24 “Exigent circumstances,” “hot pursuit” and “emergencies”
- § 5:25 “Special needs” warrantless searches
- § 5:26 Workplace searches
- § 5:27 Inevitable discovery; independent source
- § 5:28 No “murder scene” exception to warrant requirement
- § 5:29 No “probable cause” exception to warrant requirement
- § 5:30 “Protective sweep” searches
- § 5:31 Vehicle searches
- § 5:32 “Frisks” and Terry searches

### **C. SEARCH INCIDENT TO ARREST**

- § 5:33 Nature and scope of search
- § 5:34 Search of the person
- § 5:35 Search of the place of arrest
- § 5:36 Search “substantially simultaneous” with arrest

### **D. SEARCH WARRANTS**

- § 5:37 Constitutional requirements; In general
- § 5:38 Definitions
- § 5:39 Formal requirements
- § 5:40 Probable cause; nexus
- § 5:41 Must be issued by magistrate
- § 5:42 Search warrants upon oral testimony; “telephone warrants”
- § 5:43 Probable cause must be communicated to the judge
- § 5:44 Information must be current; staleness
- § 5:45 “Anticipatory” warrants
- § 5:46 Admissibility of evidence to contradict affidavit in support of warrant; misrepresentations
- § 5:47 Probable cause established by hearsay; informers
- § 5:48 Particular description of person, place, and property to be searched
- § 5:49 Seizure of property not named in warrant
- § 5:50 Announcement of authority and purpose; “no knock” entry
- § 5:51 Execution and return of warrant
- § 5:52 Filing
- § 5:53 Forms
- § 5:54 Search warrants relating to computer services
- § 5:55 Second and subsequent searches

### **E. AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES**

- § 5:56 In general
- § 5:57 Placing driver in squad car
- § 5:58 Search of vehicle incident to arrest

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 5:59 Probable cause as an independent basis for vehicle searches
- § 5:60 The “instrumentality” theory
- § 5:61 Containers in vehicles
- § 5:62 Inventory searches
- § 5:63 Passengers
- § 5:64 Public safety or “caretaking” searches
- § 5:65 Searches where there is no expectation of privacy
- § 5:66 What constitutes a motor vehicle

## F. EAVESDROPPING BY ELECTRONIC AND OTHER MEANS

- § 5:67 Electronic surveillance
- § 5:68 Eavesdropping compared with physical search
- § 5:69 Federal law
- § 5:70 Minnesota law; Privacy of Communications Act

## CHAPTER 6. CONFESSIONS AND THE PRIVILEGE AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION

- § 6:1 In general
- § 6:2 Voluntariness
- § 6:3 Evidence of involuntariness at trial
- § 6:4 Delay in taking arrestee before judge
- § 6:5 The *Miranda* warning
- § 6:6 The need for and nature of interrogation
- § 6:7 Suspects represented by counsel
- § 6:8 Waiver of rights
- § 6:9 Successive warnings
- § 6:10 Statement with warnings taken after unwarned statement
- § 6:11 Limited use of unwarned statements
- § 6:12 Impeachment use of statement taken in violation of right to counsel
- § 6:13 Admissibility of request for counsel
- § 6:14 Admissions by silence; evidence of and comments on defendant’s silence
- § 6:15 Jury instruction and comment on right to silence
- § 6:16 Derivative evidence: “fruit of the poisonous tree”
- § 6:17 Effect of “substantial compliance” with *Miranda*
- § 6:18 Statutory requirements of confessions
- § 6:19 Recording of in-custody statements
- § 6:20 Surreptitious recording
- § 6:21 Motions to suppress; burden of proof
- § 6:22 Harmless error

- § 6:23 Who is entitled to assert the privilege
- § 6:24 Calling witness who refuses to answer
- § 6:25 Forcing the accused to submit to identification procedures, testing, inspection, and examination
- § 6:26 Polygraphs and similar tests
- § 6:27 Adoptive admissions
- § 6:28 Admissibility of a defendant's prior testimony
- § 6:29 Right to an interpreter
- § 6:30 Rights of foreign nationals
- § 6:31 Civil trials "criminal in nature"
- § 6:32 Editing of confessions to eliminate inadmissible material
- § 6:33 Relation between illegal confessions and illegal searches
- § 6:34 Defendant's right to prove circumstances of a confession

## **CHAPTER 7. IDENTIFICATION: THE IDENTITY CONFRONTATION, EYEWITNESS AND VOICE IDENTIFICATION, AND EXAMINING SUSPECT'S BODY**

- § 7:1 Introduction
- § 7:2 At what identity confrontations does the right to counsel apply?
- § 7:3 Impermissibly suggestive identifications
- § 7:4 Lineups
- § 7:5 "On the scene" confrontations; "show-ups"
- § 7:6 Independent origin of identifications
- § 7:7 Waiver of counsel at the identity confrontation
- § 7:8 The derivative evidence rule
- § 7:9 The inevitable discovery rule
- § 7:10 Photographic identification
- § 7:11 Voice identification
- § 7:12 Sufficiency of eyewitness identification
- § 7:13 Fingerprints and footprints
- § 7:14 Weighing and measuring the accused
- § 7:15 Handwriting samples
- § 7:16 Taking of body specimens
- § 7:17 Challenging identification evidence
- § 7:18 Instruction

## **CHAPTER 8. THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL**

- § 8:1 Introduction; sources of the right under the Fifth and Sixth Amendments; statutes; caselaw
- § 8:2 "Critical stages" of criminal proceedings
- § 8:3 Notice by judge of right to counsel

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 8:4 Right to counsel of choice
- § 8:5 Withdrawal or substitution of counsel
- § 8:6 Indigent's right to counsel
- § 8:7 Effective assistance of counsel
- § 8:8 The right of self-representation; stand-by counsel
- § 8:9 Waiver of counsel
- § 8:10 Forfeiture of right to counsel
- § 8:11 Procedures for multiple representation

## **CHAPTER 9. DEFENSE COUNSEL'S ENTRY, ROLE, AND OBLIGATIONS**

- § 9:1 Initial contact
- § 9:2 Interviewing the suspect
- § 9:3 Initial investigation
- § 9:4 Professional responsibility of defense counsel
- § 9:5 Initial court appearance

## **Volume 8**

## **PART 3. THE ACCUSATORY PROCESS**

### **CHAPTER 10. ROLE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

- § 10:1 The prosecutor's entry into a criminal case
- § 10:2 The prosecutor's duty
- § 10:3 Prosecutors' qualifications
- § 10:4 Standards for prosecutors
- § 10:5 Prosecutorial misconduct
- § 10:6 Relations with news media
- § 10:7 Notice to complaining witness
- § 10:8 Immunity of prosecutors

### **CHAPTER 11. THE CHARGING INSTRUMENT—INDICTMENT, COMPLAINT AND TAB CHARGE**

- § 11:1 Definitions
- § 11:2 Nature and contents of an indictment
- § 11:3 Crimes which must be charged by indictment
- § 11:4 Disclosure of indictment
- § 11:5 Bill of particulars abolished



## CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- § 11:6 Nature and content of a complaint
- § 11:7 Prosecutor's jurisdiction
- § 11:8 Indictment and complaint forms
- § 11:9 Offenses which may be charged by complaint
- § 11:10 Offenses which may be charged by tab charge
- § 11:11 Joinder of offenses—Pleading by counts
- § 11:12 Joinder of defendants
- § 11:13 Instructions in joined trials
- § 11:14 Severance
- § 11:15 Consolidation of charges for trial
- § 11:16 Surplusage
- § 11:17 Amendment of charge and successive indictments
- § 11:18 Challenging the validity of the charge
- § 11:19 Grounds for dismissal of a complaint
- § 11:20 Duty to charge the least serious or most specific offense
- § 11:21 Ruling on motion to dismiss, and its effects
- § 11:22 Refiling of complaint
- § 11:23 Dismissal by prosecutor or court
- § 11:24 Filing—Restrictive orders
- § 11:25 Facsimile transmission

## CHAPTER 12. VENUE AND JURISDICTION

- § 12:1 Venue and jurisdiction in general
- § 12:2 Place of trial; jurisdiction
- § 12:3 Proof of venue
- § 12:4 Change of venue: in general
- § 12:5 Grounds for change of venue
- § 12:6 Proof for change of venue
- § 12:7 Time for motion
- § 12:8 By whom made
- § 12:9 Place to which transferred
- § 12:10 Proceedings on transfer
- § 12:11 Number of transfers permitted
- § 12:12 Appellate review
- § 12:13 Other remedies for prejudicial publicity

## CHAPTER 13. THE GRAND JURY

- § 13:1 Function and duties of the grand jury
- § 13:2 When summoned
- § 13:3 How selected and drawn
- § 13:4 Members; quorum
- § 13:5 Organization and proceedings
- § 13:6 The charge (instructions), and the role of the prosecutor
- § 13:7 Who may be present

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 13:8	Immunity
§ 13:9	Record and transcript of proceedings
§ 13:10	Evidence admissible in the grand jury
§ 13:11	Degree of proof required
§ 13:12	Exculpatory evidence; deliberate no-bills
§ 13:13	Presentments abolished
§ 13:14	Grand jury reports
§ 13:15	Challenge abolished
§ 13:16	Return of indictment or “no bill”
§ 13:17	Motion to dismiss indictment
§ 13:18	Secrecy of the proceedings
§ 13:19	No “citizen right” to appear before grand jury

## PART 4. PRE-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

### CHAPTER 14. FIRST COURT APPEARANCE

§ 14:1	In general
§ 14:2	Court’s statement to the defendant
§ 14:3	Appointment of counsel
§ 14:4	Setting Rule 8 appearance date in felony and gross misdemeanor cases
§ 14:5	Notification to victims and others
§ 14:6	Challenging jurisdiction
§ 14:7	Release of defendant
§ 14:8	Record
§ 14:9	Interpreters
§ 14:10	Time of first court appearance following arrest—“36 hour” rule

### CHAPTER 15. BAIL AND PRE-TRIAL RELEASE

§ 15:1	The constitutional right to bail in general
§ 15:2	Constitutional provisions; the “absolute right” to bail in Minnesota
§ 15:3	The rules of criminal procedure
§ 15:4	Bench warrants
§ 15:5	“Excessive” bail
§ 15:6	“Cash only” bail prohibited
§ 15:7	Bail without conditions
§ 15:8	Statutory provisions
§ 15:9	Citation instead of incarceration
§ 15:10	Release at first appearance
§ 15:11	Violation of conditions of release

- § 15:12 Persons in custody
- § 15:13 Forfeiture of bail bonds
- § 15:14 Bail considered property of defendant
- § 15:15 Use of bail to pay fines, attorney fee liens or public defender reimbursement
- § 15:16 Review of conditions
- § 15:17 Release pending appeal
- § 15:18 Bail for juveniles
- § 15:19 Bail for witnesses
- § 15:20 Bail in extradition cases
- § 15:21 Evidence at bail hearing
- § 15:22 Application when court not in session
- § 15:23 Notice to victim
- § 15:24 Notice to law enforcement agency

## **CHAPTER 16. DISCOVERY; NOTICES; DEPOSITIONS**

### **A. FELONY AND GROSS MISDEMEANOR CASES**

- § 16:1 Scope and purposes of rules
- § 16:2 Motion hearings
- § 16:3 Disclosures by prosecution
- § 16:4 Identity of informants
- § 16:5 Grand jury minutes
- § 16:6 Depositions
- § 16:7 Disclosures by defense
- § 16:8 Non-discoverable information
- § 16:9 Continuing duty to disclose
- § 16:10 Regulation of discovery
- § 16:11 Limitation of discovery in related civil litigation
- § 16:12 Sanctions
- § 16:13 Constitutionality of defense disclosure requirements

### **B. NOTICE OF EVIDENCE AND IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

- § 16:14 Historical development
- § 16:15 Evidence requiring notice: searches, confessions; identification
- § 16:16 Time for notice
- § 16:17 Method of notice
- § 16:18 Notice of other offenses to be proved

### **C. MISDEMEANOR CASES**

- § 16:19 In general

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### **D. DEPOSITIONS**

- § 16:20 Circumstances under which depositions may be taken
- § 16:21 Parties authorized to take depositions
- § 16:22 Notice of taking
- § 16:23 Expenses of defendant and counsel
- § 16:24 Failure of defendant to attend
- § 16:25 How taken
- § 16:26 Scope and manner of examination
- § 16:27 Transcription, certification, and filing
- § 16:28 Use of depositions
- § 16:29 Depositions by stipulation
- § 16:30 Depositions in misdemeanor cases
- § 16:31 Effect of errors and irregularities in depositions

### **E. REVIEW**

- § 16:32 Review of discovery violations

## **CHAPTER 17. APPEARANCE FOLLOWING COMPLAINT IN FELONY AND GROSS MISDEMEANOR CASES**

- § 17:1 Arraignment
- § 17:2 Demand or waiver of evidentiary hearing at omnibus hearing
- § 17:3 Plea of guilty
- § 17:4 Scheduling omnibus hearing
- § 17:5 Setting conditions of release
- § 17:6 Record

## **CHAPTER 18. APPEARANCE FOLLOWING INDICTMENT**

- § 18:1 Issuance and service of warrant or summons
- § 18:2 Defendant to be taken “promptly” before court
- § 18:3 Court’s statement to defendant
- § 18:4 Setting date for arraignment
- § 18:5 Fixing omnibus hearing date
- § 18:6 Notice of evidence
- § 18:7 Record
- § 18:8 Misdemeanors charged by indictment

## **CHAPTER 19. PLEAS**

### **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 19:1 The importance of proper guilty pleas

- § 19:2 The elements of a valid plea of guilty
- § 19:3 Guilty plea forms
- § 19:4 Guilty plea as a waiver of rights and defenses
- § 19:5 Types of pleas
- § 19:6 Who may plead
- § 19:7 Record of plea
- § 19:8 Defendants disabled in communications
- § 19:9 Plea to lesser offense
- § 19:10 Plea to different offense
- § 19:11 Presence of defendant

## **B. PLEA NEGOTIATIONS**

- § 19:12 Propriety of plea negotiations and agreements
- § 19:13 Role of the separation of powers in plea agreements
- § 19:14 Considerations in allowing a plea agreement
- § 19:15 Failure to include terms required by law
- § 19:16 Role of counsel
- § 19:17 Role of the judge
- § 19:18 Prosecutor's failure to honor plea agreement
- § 19:19 Defendant bound by plea agreement
- § 19:20 Finality of agreement
- § 19:21 Threat of more severe consequences
- § 19:22 Waiver of appellate rights
- § 19:23 Inadmissibility of pleas, offers to plead, and statements

## **C. ENTRY OF THE PLEA**

- § 19:24 In general
- § 19:25 Questions to the defendant
- § 19:26 Questioning the defendant in misdemeanor cases
- § 19:27 Group advisory of rights
- § 19:28 Misdemeanor guilty plea by petition
- § 19:29 Time of plea

## **D. PLEA WITHDRAWAL OR REJECTION**

- § 19:30 In general
- § 19:31 Form of motion; procedure
- § 19:32 *Sua sponte* withdrawal by judge
- § 19:33 Grounds and time of motion
- § 19:34 Withdrawal of guilty plea without asserting innocence
- § 19:35 "Package" pleas; agreements involving benefits to third parties
- § 19:36 Effect of events after a plea but before sentencing
- § 19:37 Right to plead to selected charges

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 19:38 Deferral of acceptance of a plea
- § 19:39 Rejection of an offered plea
- § 19:40 Inadmissibility of withdrawn or rejected plea
- § 19:41 Hearing
- § 19:42 Appeals

## CHAPTER 20. PRE-TRIAL MOTIONS

- § 20:1 What matters must be raised on motion before trial
- § 20:2 Time, form, service and filing of motions
- § 20:3 Necessity for joining all “defenses, objections, issues and requests” in motion
- § 20:4 Motions attacking jurisdiction in misdemeanor cases
- § 20:5 Hearings
- § 20:6 Motions to reconsider

## CHAPTER 21. THE OMNIBUS HEARING

- § 21:1 Scope and purpose
- § 21:2 Place of hearing
- § 21:3 Time of hearing
- § 21:4 Hearing on evidentiary issues
- § 21:5 Probable cause hearing
- § 21:6 Hearings on other matters; waiver
- § 21:7 Hearings on issues raised by court
- § 21:8 Disposition conferences
- § 21:9 Amendment of complaint
- § 21:10 Continuances and reopening
- § 21:11 Sequestration of witnesses
- § 21:12 Reporting the hearing
- § 21:13 Filing requirements
- § 21:14 Necessity for findings
- § 21:15 Plea permitted; trial date
- § 21:16 Reviewability of omnibus orders by trial judge

## CHAPTER 22. SUBPOENAS

- § 22:1 For witnesses
- § 22:2 For documents and of objects
- § 22:3 Service
- § 22:4 Contempt
- § 22:5 Subpoenas directed to media

## CHAPTER 23. PETTY MISDEMEANOR PRACTICE

- § 23:1 Petty misdemeanors defined

## CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- § 23:2 Reducing misdemeanors to petty misdemeanors
- § 23:3 Procedures in general
- § 23:4 Violations bureaus
- § 23:5 Fine schedules
- § 23:6 Fine payment as plea of guilty
- § 23:7 No right to a jury trial
- § 23:8 Right to appointed counsel
- § 23:9 Effect of failure to appear for trial
- § 23:10 Nature of conviction
- § 23:11 Collecting the fine

### **CHAPTER 24. COMPETENCY**

- § 24:1 Purpose of Rule 20
- § 24:2 Competency defined
- § 24:3 Suspension of criminal proceedings
- § 24:4 Probable cause determination in felony and gross misdemeanor cases
- § 24:5 Medical examination
- § 24:6 Report of examination
- § 24:7 Determination of competency
- § 24:8 Procedure on finding of competency or incompetency
- § 24:9 Continuing supervision by the court
- § 24:10 Dismissal of criminal proceedings
- § 24:11 Determination of legal issues not requiring defendant's participation
- § 24:12 Admissibility of defendant's statements
- § 24:13 Credit for time spent in confinement
- § 24:14 Options in misdemeanor cases
- § 24:15 Forced medication

## **PART 5. THE TRIAL**

### **CHAPTER 25. RIGHT TO SPEEDY TRIAL**

- § 25:1 Constitutional guarantees
- § 25:2 United States Supreme Court decisions
- § 25:3 Minnesota decisions
- § 25:4 The relation between speedy trial and due process
- § 25:5 Minnesota Rules of Criminal Procedure
- § 25:6 Speedy trials for detainees
- § 25:7 Speedy trial violations in extradition proceedings
- § 25:8 Continuances

### **CHAPTER 26. RIGHT TO JURY TRIAL**

- § 26:1 Constitutional provisions

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 26:2 Right to jury trial under the rules
- § 26:3 Waiver of right to jury trial
- § 26:4 Stipulated trials; “Lothenbach” proceedings
- § 26:5 Unanimous verdict
- § 26:6 Number of jurors
- § 26:7 Exercise of right to trial by jury may not affect sentence

## CHAPTER 27. SELECTING THE JURY

- § 27:1 The jury list
- § 27:2 Challenging the panel
- § 27:3 Preliminary instructions
- § 27:4 Voir dire examination
- § 27:5 Jury questionnaires
- § 27:6 Order of challenges
- § 27:7 Prospective juror’s oath
- § 27:8 Alternative methods for drawing, examining, and challenging prospective jurors
- § 27:9 Challenges for cause
- § 27:10 Peremptory challenges
- § 27:11 Dismissal of juror by the court *sua sponte*
- § 27:12 Dismissal of juror during trial
- § 27:13 Alternate jurors
- § 27:14 Anonymous juries
- § 27:15 Interpreters for jurors

## CHAPTER 28. PUBLIC TRIAL

- § 28:1 Constitutional provisions
- § 28:2 Excluding public from a portion of the trial not in jury’s presence
- § 28:3 Victim’s right to be present
- § 28:4 Courtroom displays
- § 28:5 Cameras and recording devices

## CHAPTER 29. PRESENCE AND CONDUCT OF DEFENDANT

- § 29:1 When required
- § 29:2 When not required; waiver
- § 29:3 Seating and attire
- § 29:4 Religious symbols
- § 29:5 Restraints in court
- § 29:6 The disruptive defendant
- § 29:7 Security measures

## CHAPTER 30. THE ROLE OF THE JUDGE

- § 30:1 Judges in general



- § 30:2 Jurisdictional requirement that judge be fully qualified;  
“judicial officers,” “*de facto* courts”
- § 30:3 Use and decorum of courtroom
- § 30:4 Advising jurors as to publicity and other influences
- § 30:5 Sequestration of jurors
- § 30:6 Sequestration of witnesses
- § 30:7 Orders not to discuss the case
- § 30:8 Judge’s obligations as administrator of justice
- § 30:9 *Ex parte* contacts
- § 30:10 Removal and substitution of judges
- § 30:11 Findings of fact, conclusions of law, and orders; adoption of a  
party’s proposals

## **CHAPTER 31. ORDER OF TRIAL**

- § 31:1 Order of jury trial
- § 31:2 Preliminary instructions
- § 31:3 Opening statements
- § 31:4 Evidence
- § 31:5 Recording of the proceedings
- § 31:6 Interpreters
- § 31:7 View by jury, or judge
- § 31:8 Note taking by jury
- § 31:9 Questions by jurors for witnesses
- § 31:10 Motion for judgment of acquittal
- § 31:11 Mistrial
- § 31:12 Misconduct of witnesses, spectators, court officers, and others
- § 31:13 Final argument
- § 31:14 Jury instructions
- § 31:15 The verdict and verdict forms
- § 31:16 Unanimous verdict
- § 31:17 Partial verdicts
- § 31:18 Inconsistent or perverse verdicts
- § 31:19 Jury deliberations, questions, and requests to review  
evidence or for further instructions
- § 31:20 Deadlocked jury; instructions
- § 31:21 Polling the jury
- § 31:22 Impeachment of the verdict; jury misconduct
- § 31:23 Trial to the court

## **CHAPTER 32. EVIDENCE**

### **A. CONSTITUTIONAL AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- § 32:1 Introduction

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 32:2 Evidence statutes and the separation of powers
- § 32:3 Prejudice, confusion, or waste of time
- § 32:4 The right to present a defense
- § 32:5 The right to confrontation
- § 32:6 Conflict of laws

## **B. EVIDENCE OF PRIOR CONVICTIONS AND OTHER MISCONDUCT**

### **1. PRIOR CONVICTIONS**

- § 32:7 Prior convictions as impeachment generally
- § 32:8 Defendant's probationary status as impeachment
- § 32:9 Time limit
- § 32:10 Nullified convictions
- § 32:11 Non-final convictions
- § 32:12 Defendant's custody status
- § 32:13 Pendency of appeal
- § 32:14 Juvenile adjudications
- § 32:15 Witnesses other than defendant
- § 32:16 Methods of proof
- § 32:17 Instructions
- § 32:18 Argument
- § 32:19 Waiver of objection

### **2. OTHER MISCONDUCT; “SPREIGL” EVIDENCE**

- § 32:20 Specific conduct without conviction
- § 32:21 The rule excluding other misconduct
- § 32:22 Exceptions to the exclusionary rule
- § 32:23 Process for determining admissibility
- § 32:24 Offenses resulting in acquittal or dismissal
- § 32:25 Methods of proof
- § 32:26 Instructions
- § 32:27 Final argument
- § 32:28 Evidence offered by defense; “Reverse-Spreigl” evidence
- § 32:29 Review

## **C. CHARACTER EVIDENCE**

- § 32:30 Character evidence in general
- § 32:31 Character of the defendant
- § 32:32 Character of victim

## **D. SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE; AND EXPERTS**

- § 32:33 Scientific evidence in general

## CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- § 32:34 Notice requirement for examinations
- § 32:35 “Novel” scientific techniques; the “*Frye-Mack*” test
- § 32:36 DNA
- § 32:37 Lie detection; polygraph evidence
- § 32:38 Hypnosis
- § 32:39 Drug influence recognition
- § 32:40 Drug profile evidence
- § 32:41 Drug “triangulation”
- § 32:42 Spectrography; “voice prints”
- § 32:43 Footprints
- § 32:44 Dog tracking evidence
- § 32:45 Fingerprints
- § 32:46 Handwriting identification
- § 32:47 Graphology: handwriting analysis of character
- § 32:48 Blood splatter evidence
- § 32:49 Gunshot residue
- § 32:50 Blood, breath and urine tests
- § 32:51 “Syndrome” evidence
- § 32:52 Gang evidence
- § 32:53 Radar and laser devices
- § 32:54 Pathologists; causation of death or injury
- § 32:55 Other types of expert evidence
- § 32:56 Expert opinions on “ultimate issues” or “legal conclusions” or “terms of art”
- § 32:57 Intent; state of mind
- § 32:58 Opinions by non-experts
- § 32:59 Expert “vouching”

## **E. OTHER TYPES OF PROOF**

- § 32:60 Police reports; public records; business records; recorded recollection
- § 32:61 Emergency or “911” calls
- § 32:62 Recordings generally
- § 32:63 Audio and written recordings and messages
- § 32:64 Police investigation
- § 32:65 Photographs: graphic, grisly, gruesome and ghastly
- § 32:66 Video of crime scenes
- § 32:67 Duplicates of videos
- § 32:68 “Mugshots”
- § 32:69 Judicial notice
- § 32:70 Stipulations
- § 32:71 Presumptions
- § 32:72 Opinions on credibility; “vouching”
- § 32:73 Offers to plead and withdrawn pleas

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 32:74	Demonstrative and illustrative evidence
§ 32:75	Spousal privilege
§ 32:76	Medical privilege
§ 32:77	Press and media privilege
§ 32:78	Domestic abuse advocate privilege
§ 32:79	Evidence of fear and threats
§ 32:80	Interference with investigation or witnesses
§ 32:81	False statements by interrogator
§ 32:82	References to request for counsel
§ 32:83	References to public defender
§ 32:84	Reference to <i>Miranda</i> warnings
§ 32:85	Employer's actions against persons accused of crime
§ 32:86	Insurance as motive
§ 32:87	Evidence about victim's life; "spark of life" evidence

## F. OTHER PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES

§ 32:88	Destruction of evidence
§ 32:89	The "fairness doctrine"; "rule of completeness"
§ 32:90	Curative admissibility; "opening the door" to inadmissible evidence; "invited error"
§ 32:91	Conditional admission of evidence
§ 32:92	Striking evidence and curative instructions
§ 32:93	Limited admissibility
§ 32:94	Multiple admissibility
§ 32:95	Multiple hearsay
§ 32:96	Chain of custody; authenticity
§ 32:97	Corroboration of accomplices
§ 32:98	Refreshing memory
§ 32:99	Impeaching a party's own witness
§ 32:100	The best evidence rule
§ 32:101	Swearing of witnesses
§ 32:102	Recalling of witnesses
§ 32:103	Reopening of case
§ 32:104	Competency of witnesses
§ 32:105	Immunity of witnesses
§ 32:106	Duplicates and copies
§ 32:107	Rebuttal
§ 32:108	Recordings and transcripts

## Volume 9

## CHAPTER 33. INSTRUCTIONS

§ 33:1	In general; jury instruction guides
--------	-------------------------------------

- § 33:2 Requests for instructions
- § 33:3 Objections to instructions
- § 33:4 Content of the instructions
- § 33:5 Timing of instructions
- § 33:6 Instructions on lesser included offenses
- § 33:7 Curative and cautionary instructions
- § 33:8 Additional instructions or review of testimony after jury retires
- § 33:9 Recording of instructions
- § 33:10 Review

## **CHAPTER 34. FINAL ARGUMENT**

- § 34:1 Time and order of arguments
- § 34:2 Proper and effective arguments
- § 34:3 Improper arguments
- § 34:4 Objections and instructions
- § 34:5 Review

## **CHAPTER 35. POSTVERDICT MOTIONS**

- § 35:1 In general
- § 35:2 Relation to post-conviction remedy
- § 35:3 New trial
- § 35:4 Vacation of judgment
- § 35:5 Judgment of acquittal
- § 35:6 New trial on court's initiative
- § 35:7 Other relief

## **CHAPTER 36. SENTENCES AND OTHER DISPOSITIONS**

### **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 36:1 Introduction
- § 36:2 Factors pertinent to sentencing
- § 36:3 Sentence for most serious offense
- § 36:4 Level of conviction determined by sentence or stay
- § 36:5 The varieties of possible dispositions
- § 36:6 "Conviction" defined
- § 36:7 Mandatory and increased sentences
- § 36:8 Uncounseled or defective prior convictions for enhancement
- § 36:9 Double jeopardy and single behavioral incident
- § 36:10 Concurrent and consecutive sentences
- § 36:11 Jail credit
- § 36:12 "Good time"

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 36:13	Supervised release
§ 36:14	Fines, costs, assessments, and surcharges
§ 36:15	Restitution
§ 36:16	Work release
§ 36:17	Furloughs
§ 36:18	Cruel or unusual punishment; excessive fines; imprisonment for debt
§ 36:19	Prisoners' rights
§ 36:20	Right to jury trial
§ 36:21	Sentencing "entrapment" or manipulation

## B. SENTENCING PROCEDURE

§ 36:22	Introduction
§ 36:23	Release pending sentencing
§ 36:24	Presentence and pre-plea investigation
§ 36:25	The sentencing hearing
§ 36:26	The sentencing order
§ 36:27	Victim's role in sentencing
§ 36:28	Sentencing after retrial
§ 36:29	Correction or reduction of sentence
§ 36:30	Review of sentences
§ 36:31	DNA collection
§ 36:32	HIV testing

## C. THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES

§ 36:33	History, nature, and purpose
§ 36:34	The impact of <i>Blakely v. Washington</i>
§ 36:35	Procedures for aggravated sentences
§ 36:36	Determining presumptive sentences
§ 36:37	The nature of presumptive sentences
§ 36:38	Mandatory sentences
§ 36:39	Concurrent and consecutive sentences
§ 36:40	Stayed and executed sentences
§ 36:41	Departures
§ 36:42	Classification and particular use of departure factors
§ 36:43	Negotiated departures; waiver of the "right" to guidelines sentencing
§ 36:44	Effect of modifications to guidelines
§ 36:45	Need for statement of departure grounds on the record

## D. PROBATION; IMPOSITION AND REVOCATION

§ 36:46	The nature and purposes of probation
§ 36:47	Conditions of probation

- § 36:48 Length of probation
- § 36:49 Extension of probation
- § 36:50 Defendant's right to execute sentence; refusal of probation
- § 36:51 Probation violation proceedings in general
- § 36:52 Warrant or summons
- § 36:53 Preference for summons
- § 36:54 Execution and service of warrant or summons
- § 36:55 Preliminary hearing
- § 36:56 First appearance
- § 36:57 Release pending hearing
- § 36:58 Time of the hearing
- § 36:59 The revocation hearing
- § 36:60 Grounds for revocation
- § 36:61 Self-incrimination
- § 36:62 Acquittals, dismissals, and uncharged conduct
- § 36:63 Contingent or provisional orders; impossible conditions
- § 36:64 Loss of jurisdiction
- § 36:65 Appeal

## **E. DIVERSION**

- § 36:66 Pre-trial diversion

## **F. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

- § 36:67 Restorative justice

## **G. FORFEITURES**

- § 36:68 Forfeitures

# **CHAPTER 37. APPEALS TO THE COURT OF APPEALS**

## **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 37:1 Scope of rules and statutes
- § 37:2 Applicability of rules of civil appellate procedure
- § 37:3 Suspension of rules
- § 37:4 Justiciability and mootness

## **B. APPEALS BY THE DEFENDANT**

- § 37:5 In general
- § 37:6 Indigent and *pro se* defendants
- § 37:7 Discretionary appeal

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 37:8	Procedure in appeals by defendant other than sentencing appeals
§ 37:9	Stay
§ 37:10	Release pending appeal
§ 37:11	Credit for time in custody
§ 37:12	Transcript and record
§ 37:13	Briefs
§ 37:14	Scope of review; preservation of issues
§ 37:15	Standards of review
§ 37:16	Action on appeal
§ 37:17	Oral argument
§ 37:18	Waiver of right to appeal

## C. APPEALS BY PROSECUTION

§ 37:19	Right of appeal
§ 37:20	Requirement that appealed pre-trial order have a “critical impact” on the trial
§ 37:21	Procedure for prosecutor’s appeals of pre-trial orders
§ 37:22	Prosecution appeals of post-conviction proceeding orders
§ 37:23	Prosecution appeals from judgment of acquittal or vacation of judgment after jury verdict
§ 37:24	Appeal from stay of adjudication
§ 37:25	Cross appeals by defendant

## D. APPEALS FROM SENTENCE

§ 37:26	Right of appeal
§ 37:27	Procedures
§ 37:28	Scope of review and action on appeal

## E. CERTIFICATION OF IMPORTANT AND DOUBTFUL QUESTIONS

§ 37:29	Certification proceedings
---------	---------------------------

## F. TIME LIMIT FOR DECISIONS

§ 37:30	Time limit for decisions
---------	--------------------------

## G. PUBLICATION OF OPINIONS

§ 37:31	Publication of opinions
---------	-------------------------



## **CHAPTER 38. APPEALS TO SUPREME COURT**

### **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 38:1 Scope and standards of review
- § 38:2 Applicability of civil appellate rules

### **B. RIGHT OF APPEAL IN FIRST DEGREE MURDER CASES**

- § 38:3 Defendant's right to appeal in first degree murder cases
- § 38:4 Both parties' right to appeal in post conviction proceeding in first-degree murder cases
- § 38:5 Prosecutor's right of appeal in first-degree murder cases
- § 38:6 Service and filing
- § 38:7 Contents of notice of appeal
- § 38:8 Time for appeal
- § 38:9 Other procedures

### **C. SUPREME COURT REVIEW OF COURT OF APPEALS DECISIONS**

- § 38:10 Criteria for granting review
- § 38:11 The petition for review
- § 38:12 Response to petition
- § 38:13 Cross petition
- § 38:14 Action on petition and cross petition
- § 38:15 Time for petitioning
- § 38:16 Service and filing
- § 38:17 Briefs in pre-trial order appeals by prosecution
- § 38:18 Briefs in other appeals
- § 38:19 Oral argument
- § 38:20 Attorneys fees and costs
- § 38:21 Conditions of release
- § 38:22 Other procedures

## **CHAPTER 39. POST CONVICTION PROCEEDINGS**

### **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 39:1 Scope of the act
- § 39:2 Exclusiveness of remedy
- § 39:3 Relief available

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 39:4 When a hearing is required or permitted
- § 39:5 Timing of petition; effect of delay
- § 39:6 Pleadings
- § 39:7 Petition to be liberally construed

## **B. THE HEARING**

- § 39:8 Presiding judge
- § 39:9 Time of hearing
- § 39:10 Place of hearing
- § 39:11 Record
- § 39:12 Presence of petitioner
- § 39:13 Evidence
- § 39:14 Burden of proof
- § 39:15 Right to counsel
- § 39:16 Findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order
- § 39:17 Appeal

# **PART 6. SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS**

## **CHAPTER 40. THE EXTRAORDINARY WRITS**

- § 40:1 Habeas corpus
- § 40:2 Mandamus and prohibition
- § 40:3 Coram nobis

## **CHAPTER 41. EXTRADITION AND DETAINERS**

- § 41:1 Constitutional and statutory basis
- § 41:2 Asylum state procedures
- § 41:3 Fugitive's rights
- § 41:4 Procedures to be followed by demanding state
- § 41:5 Detainers
- § 41:6 Transfers for federal prosecution

## **CHAPTER 42. PAROLE, CONDITIONAL RELEASE, SUPERVISED RELEASE, PARDON, AND PRISONERS'S RIGHTS**

### **A. PAROLE**

- § 42:1 Parole defined
- § 42:2 Time of eligibility

- § 42:3 Department of corrections
- § 42:4 Granting parole
- § 42:5 Furloughs
- § 42:6 Work release
- § 42:7 Intensive community supervision
- § 42:8 Community work requirement
- § 42:9 Detention
- § 42:10 End of confinement risk assessment

## **B. REVOCATION OF PAROLE**

- § 42:11 Initiating parole revocation
- § 42:12 Constitutional requirements for the revocation hearing
- § 42:13 Preliminary hearing
- § 42:14 The revocation hearing
- § 42:15 Action upon proof of violation
- § 42:16 Appeal
- § 42:17 Credit for time served

## **C. PARDON**

- § 42:18 Pardon

## **D. PRISONERS'S RIGHTS**

- § 42:19 Prisoner's rights

## **CHAPTER 43. DISABILITIES OF CONVICTION AND THEIR REMOVAL; EXPUNGEMENT**

- § 43:1 Loss of civil rights
- § 43:2 Other legal impediments
- § 43:3 Withholding adjudication
- § 43:4 Restoration of rights
- § 43:5 Restoration of rights by pardon extraordinary
- § 43:6 Expungement or sealing of records

## **PART 7. THE SUBSTANTIVE LAW**

### **CHAPTER 44. INTENT; *MENS REA*; *SCIENTER*; KNOWLEDGE**

- § 44:1 In general
- § 44:2 Definitions of intent
- § 44:3 General and specific intent

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 44:4 Recklessness and carelessness
- § 44:5 “Strict liability” crimes
- § 44:6 Voluntary action
- § 44:7 Mistake of fact or law
- § 44:8 Vicarious liability
- § 44:9 “Transferred” intent

## **CHAPTER 45. LIABILITY FOR CRIMES OF ANOTHER; AIDING AND ABETTING; ACCOMPLICES**

- § 45:1 In general
- § 45:2 “Accessories before the fact”
- § 45:3 “Accessories after the fact”
- § 45:4 Intent
- § 45:5 Required degree of participation; “mere presence”; passivity
- § 45:6 Relation of aiders and abettors to “accomplices” for evidentiary purposes
- § 45:7 Aiding and abetting a conspiracy
- § 45:8 Persons who cannot aid and abet
- § 45:9 Withdrawal as a defense
- § 45:10 Aiding criminal act in another state
- § 45:11 Liability for other foreseeable crimes
- § 45:12 Acquittal of co-defendant no defense
- § 45:13 Jury instructions

## **CHAPTER 46. ATTEMPTS**

- § 46:1 In general
- § 46:2 Penalty
- § 46:3 Intent
- § 46:4 More than “mere preparation” required
- § 46:5 Factual impossibility
- § 46:6 Legal impossibility
- § 46:7 Inherent impossibility
- § 46:8 Withdrawal

## **CHAPTER 47. DEFENSES**

### **A. IN GENERAL; TYPES OF DEFENSES: ORDINARY AND AFFIRMATIVE; STANDARD DEFENSE**

- § 47:1 Defenses in general; “affirmative” and “ordinary” defenses

## **B. THE STANDARD “NOT GUILTY” DEFENSE**

- § 47:2 The standard “not guilty” defense; presumption of innocence;  
proof beyond a reasonable doubt; instructions

## **C. THE INSANITY DEFENSE**

- § 47:3 In general; constitutional basis  
§ 47:4 “Presumption” of sanity  
§ 47:5 Notice of defense  
§ 47:6 Mental examination of defendant  
§ 47:7 Defendant’s refusal to be examined  
§ 47:8 Report of the examination  
§ 47:9 The standard of insanity  
§ 47:10 Evidence  
§ 47:11 Procedure in bifurcated trial  
§ 47:12 Jury instructions  
§ 47:13 Burden of proof  
§ 47:14 Verdict or finding  
§ 47:15 Effect of verdict of not guilty because of mental illness  
§ 47:16 Procedure in misdemeanor cases

## **D. OTHER DEFENSES**

- § 47:17 Substantive due process; violation of liberty or privacy  
§ 47:18 “Unconstitutional conditions” imposed on privileges  
§ 47:19 Intoxication; voluntary and involuntary  
§ 47:20 Duress  
§ 47:21 Necessity; emergency; choice of evils  
§ 47:22 Self defense; defense of dwelling; defense of others; imperfect  
self-defense  
§ 47:23 Heat of passion  
§ 47:24 Transitory anger; flippancy; joking  
§ 47:25 Entrapment and the “due process defense”  
§ 47:26 Illegal arrest, search or detention  
§ 47:27 Mistake or ignorance of fact  
§ 47:28 Mistake or ignorance of law  
§ 47:29 Reliance on official actions or statements; government  
estoppel  
§ 47:30 Immunity  
§ 47:31 Non-enforcement of law  
§ 47:32 Claim of right  
§ 47:33 Good motive  
§ 47:34 Advice of counsel or others  
§ 47:35 Accident  
§ 47:36 Impossibility: factual, legal, inherent

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 47:37	Supervening or independent cause
§ 47:38	Contributory negligence
§ 47:39	Abandonment of attempt
§ 47:40	Withdrawal of conspirator or accomplice
§ 47:41	Retraction of perjury
§ 47:42	Alibi
§ 47:43	Mistaken identification
§ 47:44	Alternative perpetrator
§ 47:45	Restitution
§ 47:46	Ratification or condonation
§ 47:47	Lack of jurisdiction or venue
§ 47:48	Statutes of limitations
§ 47:49	Freedom of expression, assembly, conscience
§ 47:50	Religious belief
§ 47:51	Denial of speedy trial; delay; laches
§ 47:52	Discriminatory or selective enforcement
§ 47:53	Equal protection
§ 47:54	Vindictive prosecution
§ 47:55	Prosecution of least serious offense
§ 47:56	Double jeopardy; multiple prosecution and punishment
§ 47:57	Vagueness and overbreadth of statutes
§ 47:58	<i>Ex post facto</i> laws
§ 47:59	Pre-emption
§ 47:60	Estoppel, <i>res judicata</i> , law of the case
§ 47:61	Jury nullification
§ 47:62	<i>De minimis</i> offenses
§ 47:63	The interests of justice
§ 47:64	Marriage
§ 47:65	“Fleeting control”
§ 47:66	Change in interpretation or clarification of the law
§ 47:67	Lack of corroboration of confession

## E. INSTRUCTIONS

§ 47:68	Jury instructions
---------	-------------------

## F. NOTICE OF DEFENSES

§ 47:69	Required notice of defenses
---------	-----------------------------

## **Volume 9A**

### **CHAPTER 48. DOUBLE JEOPARDY; SINGLE BEHAVIORAL INCIDENT; ESTOPPEL**

#### **A. DOUBLE JEOPARDY**

- § 48:1 In general
- § 48:2 Attachment of jeopardy
- § 48:3 Completion, interruption, or termination of jeopardy
- § 48:4 Forfeitures and civil penalties
- § 48:5 Other applications
- § 48:6 Dual sovereignty
- § 48:7 Acquittal and implied acquittal; convictions of lesser offenses
- § 48:8 Harsher sentence after retrial
- § 48:9 Estoppel
- § 48:10 Pleading and waiver of the issue

#### **B. SINGLE BEHAVIORAL INCIDENT STATUTES AND CRIMINAL RULES**

- § 48:11 General rule
- § 48:12 Statutory exceptions to the general rule
- § 48:13 Definition and scope of a “single behavioral incident”
- § 48:14 Requirement of “conviction” or “acquittal”
- § 48:15 Waiver; manipulation of plea
- § 48:16 Accessories

## **PART 8. PARTICULAR CRIMES**

### **CHAPTER 49. HOMICIDE**

- § 49:1 In general
- § 49:2 First-degree murder—varieties
- § 49:3 — —Premeditated
- § 49:4 —Felony murder
- § 49:5 —Child and domestic abuse
- § 49:6 —Peace and correction officers
- § 49:7 Second-degree murder
- § 49:8 Third-degree murder
- § 49:9 First-degree manslaughter
- § 49:10 Second-degree manslaughter
- § 49:11 Vehicular homicide and related crimes

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 49:12 Death caused while fleeing
- § 49:13 Crimes against unborn children
- § 49:14 Causation
- § 49:15 *Corpus delicti*
- § 49:16 Lesser included offenses
- § 49:17 Multiple convictions

## CHAPTER 50. OTHER CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

- § 50:1 Robbery
- § 50:2 Assault
- § 50:3 Malicious punishment of a child
- § 50:4 Neglect or endangerment of a child
- § 50:5 Kidnapping
- § 50:6 False imprisonment
- § 50:7 Deprivation of custodial or parental rights
- § 50:8 Abduction
- § 50:9 Terroristic threats and communications offenses
- § 50:10 Obscene or harassing calls and mailings
- § 50:11 Interference with privacy

## CHAPTER 51. SEX CRIMES

### A. CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT

- § 51:1 In general
- § 51:2 Definitions
- § 51:3 Criminal sexual conduct in general
- § 51:4 First degree criminal sexual conduct
- § 51:5 Second degree criminal sexual conduct
- § 51:6 Third degree criminal sexual conduct
- § 51:7 Fourth degree criminal sexual conduct
- § 51:8 Fifth degree criminal sexual conduct
- § 51:9 Criminal sexual predatory conduct
- § 51:10 Lesser-included offenses; separate offenses; single behavioral incident
- § 51:11 Sentences; patterned, predatory, dangerous, and repeat offenders
- § 51:12 Exceptions for voluntary relationships
- § 51:13 Evidence
- § 51:14 Registration and failure to register

### B. OTHER CRIMES

- § 51:15 Obscenity



- § 51:16 Sodomy
- § 51:17 Fornication
- § 51:18 Adultery
- § 51:19 Incest
- § 51:20 Bestiality
- § 51:21 Bigamy
- § 51:22 Indecent exposure

### **C. PROSTITUTION AND RELATED CRIMES**

- § 51:23 Prostitution in general
- § 51:24 Solicitation, inducement and promotion of prostitution;  
receiving profits
- § 51:25 Solicitation of children to engage in sex (not for hire)
- § 51:26 Providing residence to minor engaged in prostitution
- § 51:27 Prostitution protection orders
- § 51:28 Prostitution in public places
- § 51:29 Prostitution in school and park zones
- § 51:30 Disorderly houses

## **CHAPTER 52. PROPERTY CRIMES**

- § 52:1 In general
- § 52:2 Theft
- § 52:3 Receiving or concealing stolen property
- § 52:4 Issuance of worthless check
- § 52:5 Defeating security on real property
- § 52:6 Defeating security on personal property
- § 52:7 Criminal damage to property
- § 52:8 Trespass
- § 52:9 Tampering with a motor vehicle
- § 52:10 Embezzlement of public funds
- § 52:11 Burglary
- § 52:12 Possession of burglary tools
- § 52:13 Forgery
- § 52:14 Financial transaction card fraud
- § 52:15 Misusing credit card to secure services
- § 52:16 Arson and related crimes
- § 52:17 Identity theft
- § 52:18 Misapplication of funds by contractor
- § 52:19 Crimes against vulnerable adults
- § 52:20 Wrongfully obtaining public assistance

## **CHAPTER 53. DRUG CRIMES**

- § 53:1 In general

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 53:2	Definitions
§ 53:3	First degree offenses
§ 53:4	Second degree offenses
§ 53:5	Third degree offenses
§ 53:6	Fourth degree offenses
§ 53:7	Fifth degree offense
§ 53:8	Importing
§ 53:9	Great bodily harm by distribution of drugs
§ 53:10	Gross misdemeanors
§ 53:11	Misdemeanor; Marijuana
§ 53:12	Petty misdemeanor; Marijuana
§ 53:13	Simulated controlled substances
§ 53:14	Conspiracy
§ 53:15	Children and vulnerable adults
§ 53:16	Schedules
§ 53:17	“Sale” defined
§ 53:18	“Possession”
§ 53:19	Usable quantity
§ 53:20	Proof of substance and quantity
§ 53:21	Knowledge of nature of substance
§ 53:22	Dispositions
§ 53:23	Discriminatory enforcement or effect
§ 53:24	Restitution

## CHAPTER 54. CRIMES AFFECTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE SYSTEM OF JUSTICE

§ 54:1	In general
§ 54:2	Perjury
§ 54:3	Tampering with and bribery of a witness
§ 54:4	Warning subject of investigation, surveillance or search
§ 54:5	Obstructing legal process; resisting arrest; interference with emergency call
§ 54:6	Fleeing a peace officer
§ 54:7	Aiding an offender; accomplices after the fact; obstructing investigation
§ 54:8	Concealing criminal proceeds
§ 54:9	False reports or information
§ 54:10	Simulating legal process
§ 54:11	Judicial misconduct; jurors
§ 54:12	Bribery
§ 54:13	Escape
§ 54:14	Providing alcohol to minors

## **CHAPTER 55. CONSPIRACY, RACKETEERING, GANG CRIMES**

- § 55:1 Conspiracy
- § 55:2 Racketeering
- § 55:3 Gang crimes

## **CHAPTER 56. IMPAIRED DRIVING CRIMES AND IMPLIED CONSENT**

### **A. IN GENERAL**

- § 56:1 Introduction
- § 56:2 The development of Minnesota law
- § 56:3 The present statute
- § 56:4 Relation between impaired driving and implied consent
- § 56:5 Driving while impaired
- § 56:6 The degrees of the offense
- § 56:7 Aggravating factors
- § 56:8 Qualified incidents
- § 56:9 Separate course of conduct
- § 56:10 Refusal to submit to testing
- § 56:11 Restricted licenses
- § 56:12 Right to counsel
- § 56:13 Discovery
- § 56:14 Bail and conditional release
- § 56:15 Interpreters

### **B. TERMS AND ELEMENTS**

- § 56:16 In general
- § 56:17 “Driving,” “operating,” “physical control”
- § 56:18 Motor vehicles
- § 56:19 Commercial vehicles
- § 56:20 Buses
- § 56:21 Motorboats
- § 56:22 Off-road recreational vehicles
- § 56:23 “Owner”
- § 56:24 “Intoxicating liquor;” “alcoholic beverage”
- § 56:25 “Controlled” and “hazardous” substances
- § 56:26 “Infrared breath-testing instrument”
- § 56:27 “Under the influence”
- § 56:28 “Alcohol concentration”
- § 56:29 “Underage drinking”
- § 56:30 “Open bottle”; marijuana in vehicle

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 56:31 Peace officers and police officers
- § 56:32 “Preliminary screening test”
- § 56:33 “Chemical tests for intoxication”: breath, blood and urine
- § 56:34 Applicability; “within this state”
- § 56:35 “As measured within two hours”

## C. STOPS AND ARRESTS

- § 56:36 Stops and arrests of vehicles

## D. EVIDENCE

- § 56:37 In general
- § 56:38 Collateral estoppel
- § 56:39 Opinions on intoxication
- § 56:40 Lack of impairment in alcohol concentration cases
- § 56:41 Video and audio recordings
- § 56:42 Stipulations
- § 56:43 Refusal of testing
- § 56:44 Sufficiency of evidence
- § 56:45 Test results and analysis

## E. DEFENSES

- § 56:46 Defenses in impaired driving cases

## F. SENTENCES

- § 56:47 In general
- § 56:48 Collateral attack on prior record
- § 56:49 Stay of execution
- § 56:50 Consecutive sentences
- § 56:51 Notice of future effects of conviction
- § 56:52 Electronic monitoring
- § 56:53 Chemical use assessment
- § 56:54 Penalty assessment
- § 56:55 Ignition interlock device

## G. IMPLIED CONSENT

- § 56:56 Introduction
- § 56:57 The nature of “implied” consent
- § 56:58 Definitions
- § 56:59 Jurisdiction to request test
- § 56:60 Grounds for requesting test
- § 56:61 Advisory and request for test
- § 56:62 Requests for multiple tests

- § 56:63 Right to counsel
- § 56:64 Choice of tests
- § 56:65 Testing procedures: blood, breath, urine
- § 56:66 Alternate test after malfunction of testing device
- § 56:67 Right to additional test
- § 56:68 Report of test; notice of revocation; certification
- § 56:69 Refusal to submit to testing
- § 56:70 Challenging the revocation: administrative and judicial hearings
- § 56:71 Post-driving drinking
- § 56:72 Collateral estoppel
- § 56:73 Appeals

## **CHAPTER 57. DOMESTIC ASSAULT, HARASSMENT AND STALKING; PROTECTION AND RESTRAINING ORDERS**

- § 57:1 In general
- § 57:2 Domestic assault
- § 57:3 Domestic abuse protection order violations
- § 57:4 Domestic abuse no contact order violations
- § 57:5 Domestic assault by strangulation
- § 57:6 Harassment and stalking
- § 57:7 Harassment restraining order violations

## **CHAPTER 58. FIREARM, WEAPONS, AND EXPLOSIVES CRIMES**

- § 58:1 Firearms and other weapons
- § 58:2 “Drive-by” shooting
- § 58:3 Explosives and incendiary devices
- § 58:4 Weapons of mass destruction

## **CHAPTER 59. OTHER CRIMES**

- § 59:1 Disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly, and riot
- § 59:2 Disruption of funerals
- § 59:3 Environmental crimes, hazardous waste, harmful substances
- § 59:4 Giving liquor to minors
- § 59:5 Corporate crimes
- § 59:6 Nuisances
- § 59:7 Animal fighting; dog regulation
- § 59:8 Smoking

### **Table of Laws and Rules**

### **Table of Cases**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Index**