

Preface

Since the publication of the original Handbook of Personal Injury Forms, the law, the rules and the nature of the personal injury practice, in general, have gone through significant changes. This edition contains material that reflects these changes. Specifically, this edition highlights significant rule changes, incorporates invaluable checklists, contains basic personal injury forms and letters and includes more sophisticated materials involving a multitude of more complex situations which could be encountered by the practitioner. This edition is not intended to be a comprehensive treatise or a substitute for the compendia already published; used properly, it can be a helpful desk tool for all personal injury practitioners. The forms and suggestions contained herein should never be used without modification. Modification will be necessary because of jurisdictional differences, stylistic and substantive differences, differing fact patterns, and the individual style and approach of each attorney. Not only should the representative excerpts from under-oath transcript testimony which are included prove useful as generic source materials, but such materials, when used most advantageously, should provide the attorney with a proven checklist of the types of questions and materials which should be utilized in a wide range of litigation applications.

If the text succeeds in easing the burdens of the trial lawyer to the extent that it makes the lawyer a bit more aware of the other possible approaches to pending matters, it will have fulfilled its purpose. And, because I have long advocated the law as a profession and am proud to be a part of it, I have a particular hope that students and new bar admittees will also use this book with confidence and success.

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