

## What's New in the 2025-2026 Edition

The *Handbook of Personal Injury Forms and Litigation Materials* would not exist in its current form without the vision, dedication, and tireless efforts of its original author, Edward Swartz, and his successor, James Swartz. Over many years, these authors crafted a comprehensive collection of practical tools designed to support personal injury practitioners in their daily work. Their deep understanding of litigation strategy, procedural nuance, and the real-world needs of attorneys enabled them to build a publication that has come to be relied on within the legal community. Thomson Reuters is grateful to both Edward and James Swartz for laying a solid foundation upon which future editions can continue to grow and evolve.

The 2025-2026 Edition of the *Handbook* has been updated by Thomson Reuters' editorial staff—a transition that marks a new chapter in the life of this trusted work. Recognizing the need to modernize and streamline the publication, we began a thorough review focused on enhancing accessibility, consistency, and usability.

One of our primary objectives in this initial phase was to improve the organization and internal scheme of this three-volume set, which grew to contain 1,125 individual forms spread across 8 chapters, often with inconsistent titling and fragmented topical groupings. To address this, we restructured portions of the work and introduced additional hierarchical levels into its table of contents, allowing for more intuitive navigation. Forms covering the same or related topics have been grouped together logically, and section titles have been revised to employ consistent terminology.

Equally important was the effort to reduce redundancy and distinguish seemingly duplicative forms, particularly in high-volume areas such as complaints and discovery. We identified numerous forms whose titles or functions seemed to overlap, or that presented similar legal scenarios. When appropriate, we removed forms that might be considered duplicative, or we edited forms to distinguish their functionality.

In addition to structural improvements, many individual forms received editorial refinements to improve clarity, ensure consistency, and enhance utility for practitioners who will need to tailor them to their own specific circumstances. These updates represent the first phase of a broader initiative to bring greater

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coherence and efficiency to the Handbook, while also setting the stage for further substantive expansion in future annual editions as the needs of our readers continue to evolve.