

# Introduction to the 2025-2026 Edition

This edition of *Admissibility of Evidence in North Carolina* will provide you with newly updated information on case law interpretations of the North Carolina Rules of Evidence and related statutory and constitutional provisions in print and digital formats.

Attorneys conducting litigation research will find in this handbook a set of logically organized interpretations of the latest decisions in evidence law, allowing for quick access to critical decisions and convincing arguments. In addition to prior coverage of every North Carolina rule of evidence impacting civil and criminal litigation, this text includes other related topics that impact evidentiary issues, such as constitutional violations based on the right to confrontation, discovery matters related to e-discovery, and evolving standards of appellate review addressing admissibility.

The selection of cases and statutes focuses on the most recent updates in North Carolina, as well as the greatest weight of authority since the state legislature's adoption of the North Carolina Rules of Evidence in 1984. When North Carolina courts have not yet addressed an evidentiary issue of importance nationally, the *Admissibility of Evidence in North Carolina* includes persuasive authority from other jurisdictions to aid attorneys in making and anticipating novel arguments. Also, occasionally reference is made to recent unpublished case law when the courts have not addressed an issue for some time, as a guide to practicing attorneys on potential arguments.

Some of the many updated sections in the 2025-2026 Edition include:

- § 1:17 Juvenile abuse, neglect, and dependency hearings
- § 3:7 Cross-examination
- § 4:13 Judicial comments during trial
- § 6:1 Presumptions and prima facie evidence generally
- § 6:47 Presumption of sex and gender identity
- § 11:9 Lay opinion testimony—Data and technology
- § 12:8 Standard of reliability for expert Opinions
- § 12:30 Expert testimony—Data and technology

- § 12:32 Types of expert testimony—DNA testing and analysis
- § 12:33 Expert testimony—Drug identification
- § 13:2 Credibility of witnesses—Bias, interest, or corruption
- § 13:11 Character for truthfulness—Conviction of a crime
- § 14:3 Character in conformity exceptions—Character of accused
- § 18:4 Hearsay exceptions—Business records
- § 20:12 Authentication of photographs, video tapes, motion pictures, or x-rays
- § 22:12 Demonstrative evidence—Photographs, images, and video
- § 24:12 Right to confrontation—Crawford ruling—North Carolina application
- § 26:6 Confidential informants, anonymous tips, and corroboration
- § 27:2 Standards of Review for demonstrative evidence in North Carolina

Thank you for subscribing to *Admissibility of Evidence in North Carolina* in the North Carolina Practice Series. We work diligently each year to improve this publication, seeking to create the most current, accurate and practical resource on evidence available for North Carolina attorneys.

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