

Introduction to the 2026 Edition

Trial Handbook for Kentucky Lawyers is a practical trial guide designed to be kept at your fingertips in the heat of trial. The handbook discusses the procedural and substantive aspects of a trial and analyzes state and federal case law, rules, and statutes.

The tactical suggestions made in the handbook are offered with the realization that every lawyer must analyze each case, the community in which it is being tried, the judge, and many other subtle and personal factors before making final tactical decisions. The practitioner must, as always, conduct thorough research into the state of law before advising the court or his or her clients.

This 2026 Edition includes new case law on the following topics (partial list): § 1:17 Ethics and AI; § 7:6 Right to remain silent; § 7:14 Presence of the accused—Due process; § 7:27 Right to speedy trial; § 9:5 Trial ethics; § 10:5 Prosecutions for multiple offenses; § 32:27 Cell-Site location information and § 39:7 Criminal cases, generally.