

Foreword

To the extent they are known, the facts associated with every criminal case are unique and will vary widely based upon the time place, manner of the crime and the actions of the perpetrator. Against this collection of varied and imperfect information, investigating police, prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges must use the stability of New Jersey criminal law to analyze the known and provable facts in an effort to arrive at an outcome that will favorably resolve the case. These volumes, the latest editions of *New Jersey Criminal Law*, were written with these considerations in mind. The volumes are intended to be used as a filter through which the known, relevant and provable facts in a criminal case can be analyzed and resolved in conformity with the latest versions of New Jersey's statutory criminal law.

Volumes 33, 33A and 33B of the *New Jersey Practice Series* take an innovative approach toward accomplishing the goal of providing advocates a pathway to successful case resolutions. This novel way of criminal case filtering and analysis involves the following:

- 1.) Statutory analysis—The focus of these three volumes is limited to substantive analysis of statutory crimes as enacted by the legislature. The related criminal procedure issues are available in exacting detail in Volumes 31 and 32 of the New Jersey Practice Series.
- 2.) Jury charges—Each statute's analysis is accompanied by the most recent jury charge authorized by the New Jersey Supreme Court. The inclusion of jury charges allows the user to take a "bottom line up front" approach to filtering the facts of the case against what will be required to favorably resolve it at trial.
- 3.) Case law references—Because this book is entirely based upon the Code, all of the citations reflect published decisions related to statutes within the Code. For the most part, pre-code case analysis, unpublished cases and federal law have been eliminated from the statutory reviews.
- 4.) Organization—In an effort to present a coherent and logical sequence of statutes, this book aggregates various related offenses that may appear in different chapters of the Code. For example, the book places all offenses using motor vehicles or sex crimes in a single chapter, rather than presenting them as they appear within the Code.

These organizational concepts were developed and implemented in an effort to make these volumes equally useful for po-

lice, prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges. The central idea was to eliminate complexity from the statutory law while maintaining an accurate analysis that can be utilized to the maximum extent possible to resolve the widest array of criminal cases.

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