

SVC# 42995459: *Preliminary Hearing Handbook (The Rutter Group Criminal Practice Series)*

- What is the unique value of this title?

The *Preliminary Hearing Handbook* is an invaluable resource for prosecutors and defense attorneys (both government and private) as well as judicial officers. Its structure and readily accessible content provide quick answers needed in the fast-paced environment of a preliminary hearing courtroom.

- If you had 10 seconds to talk about your book with a potential customer, what would you say about it?

The *Preliminary Hearing Handbook* is a practical, in-the-trenches, resource that will provide judges and attorneys quick and comprehensive answers to substantive and procedural issues that arise in preliminary hearing courtrooms. It includes numerous charts, outlines and scripts that prepare attorneys and judicial officers for a variety of motions and hearings encountered in misdemeanor and felony courts.

- How does the proposed product address the needs of our core market of legal practitioners?

Every felony case headed to trial in California, not indicted by grand jury, must pass through the preliminary hearing court. The *Preliminary Hearing Handbook*, which was initially designed for bench officers, provides prosecutors and defense attorneys with insights and discussions about the issues that matter the most to the court. With this Handbook, bench officers and attorneys practicing in preliminary hearing courtrooms will be well prepared to handle any substantive and procedural issues that arise. The Handbook addresses virtually every issue that comes up in the preliminary hearing court: from bail to time waivers; from conducting the preliminary hearing to being held to answer; from making objections to making motions; from disposing a case by plea to sentencing. Similarly, because the Handbook is a one-stop shop for so many issues, it is also an incredible resource for bench officers and attorneys practicing in felony and misdemeanor trial courts. For example, the Handbook provides: thumb nail summaries of recent case law on a broad spectrum of crimes, including a chapter devoted to gang crimes; quick answers to evidentiary issues; sample plea scripts; a step-by-step approach for handling issues involving reluctant witnesses and motions involving official information and informant privileges; and an in-depth discussion of sentencing issues and pretrial release motions.

- Identify the trends or forces of change around the topic which make the proposed product an essential resource for legal practitioners

The law affecting preliminary hearings is always evolving. Because preliminary hearings cover the entire range of criminal law, judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys need to stay up to date on the changes in the law substantively as well as procedurally. The Handbook is updated annually to include important changes to the legal landscape.

- Describe the relevant audience(s) for this title (e.g., Small Law Firm practitioner, Large Law Firm practitioner, Corporate, Government).

All California criminal practitioners, both government (deputy district attorneys, deputy public defenders, alternate public defenders, bar panel lawyers) and private, as well as bench officers.