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WORKING MANUAL OF CRIMINAL LAW

Lesley Ruzicka, Matthew Scott

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This manual summarizes the current law on issues arising in criminal practice. The expert commentary integrates the statutory provisions and case law relevant to a particular topic. The commentary is divided into six sections: defences, evidence, substantive offences, procedure, sentencing, and *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. This publication facilitates preparation and is of assistance in the courtroom. Regular releases ensure that the text is current, accurate and reliable.

This release features updates to the case law and commentary in Appendix WP (Words and Phrases).

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Release Highlights

New entries introduced with this release include the following:

- **Collateral Consequences of a Sentence — British Columbia —** Collateral consequences of a sentence are described as secondary consequences, that is secondary to the criminal process, including consequences arising from the commission of the offence, the sentence imposed, or the impact on the offender: *R. v. Suter*, 2018 SCC 34. They are not aggravating or mitigating factors because those factors relate only to the gravity of the offence or the responsibility of the offender: *Suter* at para. 48. (*R. v. Majedi* (2026), 2026 CarswellBC 622, 2026 BCSC 343 (B.C. S.C.) at para. 77 Matthews J.)
- **Section 34 Assessment — Ontario —** In my view, this s. 34 assessment [under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*] is key to my decision. A s. 34 assessment is a court ordered medical, psychological, or psychiatric report to help decide whether to give an adult sentence . . . (*R. v. I.T.* (2025), 2025 CarswellOnt 17079, 2025 ONSC 5762 (Ont. S.C.J.) at para. 107 Nakatsuru, J.)