Author's Introduction to the Eighth Edition

I am very pleased to introduce the first three volumes of the Eighth Edition of *Statutes and Statutory Construction*. Volumes 3A-3C cover the application of the rules of statutory interpretation in selected areas of substantive law. Moving forward, I plan to release an additional Eighth Edition volume at the rate of approximately one per year.

The Eighth Edition of volumes 3A-3C represent over a decade of sustained research and analysis. These new volumes build substantially on *Sutherland's* venerable, nearly 130-year, foundation and framework to reflect the most current doctrinal trends and results. Specifically, the Eighth Edition considerably expands the discussions of statutory interpretation issues relating to:

- an act's language, grammar, structure, and context
- the modes and judicial treatment of legislative history
- the nature and effect of legislative amendments
- the nature and effect of retroactive legislation
- initiatives and referendums
- implied repeals
- the nature and effect of, and judicial deference to, administrative and other executive branch interpretations
- strict versus broad interpretive standards in the context of criminal, penal, remedial, procedural, and other types of laws
- legislative acquiescence, derogation of the common law, and other matters concerning a legislature's presumed "knowledge" of extant statutes, administrative regulations and rulings, and judicial opinions
- constitutional matters such as the void-for-vagueness, severability, single-subject, and special legislation doctrines
- the *in pari materia* doctrine
- statutory exceptions or exclusions
- the maxims *noscitur a sociis*, *expressio unius*, *ejusdem generis*, the last antecedent rule, and *reddendo singula singulis*

- the nature and effect of mandatory versus directory statutes
- the rule of "presumed adoption" governing laws copied or largely taken from sister jurisdictions

Additionally, the Eighth Edition of volumes 3A-3C offer entirely new, systematic discussions of statutory interpretation issues relating to:

- the nature and effect of a presumption of constitutionality, and of a judicial finding of as-applied versus facial unconstitutionality
- the nature and effect of constitutional presentment clauses
- the nature and effect of federal and state preemption doctrine
- the principle of extraterritoriality

Even beyond all those particular innovations, the Eighth Edition of volumes 3A-3C:

- add a voluminous amount of instructive case materials and secondary sources across all chapters
- expand the breadth and depth of jurisdictional coverage across all chapters
- reorganize sections within chapters to clarify legal concepts and make research more efficient
- include 125 new chapter and section introductions to elucidate the connection between the process of statutory interpretation and underlying substantive legal doctrines

In short, the Eighth Edition of *Sutherland* is the most comprehensive, accessible, topical, and practical resource available on all issues relating to statutory interpretation. I am honored to add to the contributions of five previous authors since J.G. Sutherland published the First Edition of his significant work in 1891. I hope you will find this new edition to be as interesting and useful as I do.

Shambie Singer
Williamstown, August 2018