What's New in 2026–2027 Edition

This year's edition of **Iowa Practice-Criminal Law** incorporates significant discussions regarding the following areas:

- Passed new legislation modifying current law concerning the ability of courts to set bail, professional permits to carry weapons, the habitual offender statute, crime victim compensation, and a courts ability to order restitution.
- Passed new legislation establishing additional factors courts should include in determining whether an individual should be released for a hearing on continued confinement.
- Passed new legislation creating a class of crimes that apply to members of the general assembly, judicial officers ,and certain public officiations, which offenses include threats, malicious sharing of personal information, and harassment of a public official.
- Passed new legislation establishing a new variant of fraudulent representation regarding academic credentials or professional or occupational licenses.
- Passed new legislation allowing law enforcement to file for an emergency no contact order.
- Passed new legislation establishing an additional theory of aggravated animal torture And added sentencing enhancements.
- The Iowa Supreme Court addressed the constitutionality of Iowa's felon in possession statute.
- The Iowa Supreme Court addressed the exclusion of expert testimony regarding eyewitness identification.
- The Iowa Supreme Court addressed when a person on their own property commits assault with a weapon.
- The Iowa Supreme Court addressed the timeline for possession of stolen property.

These are a few highlights of the current edition that readers will find informative and useful in their practice and discussions with colleagues.

Additionally, readers will find the inclusion of the Iowa Criminal Statutes Summary Chart, authored by the Honorable Michael R. Mullins of the Iowa Court of Appeals, in applicable footnotes. This chart provides users with a guide of the maximum and minimum penalties a criminal charge carries.

Special thanks to the research assistance of my dear friends Brandy Bonecher (State Public Defender Wrongful Conviction

Unit) and Natalie Sherman (Legislative Services Agency) who made this project possible; and to the members of the legal profession who teach, legislate, litigate, and decide the issues that affect one of the most dynamic areas of society—Criminal Law.

For Sam, Glenn, and Louise

Robert R. Rigg