PREFACE TO 2026-2027 EDITION

The 2026-2027 Edition of the *Trial Handbook for Georgia Lawyers* contains a broad array of civil and criminal case law and statutes, including both historical as well as late-breaking developments. Among the recent authorities, decisions, and other developments contained herein are:

- Georgia and federal appellate decisions addressing expert witness qualifications under Georgia Rule of Evidence 702. *See* § 24:17.
- Conduct of the opposing party during closing arguments in civil cases. *See* § 34:7.
- *Atlanta Women's Specialists, LLC v. Trabue,* discerning the timing for "the entry of judgment" in the context of calculating attorney fee awards. *See* § 38:1.
- Georgia authority covering motions to suppress illegally obtained evidence. *See* § 28:7.
- *Boston v. State,* reversing convictions where the trial moved forward after the defendant absconded before the jury was sworn. *See* § 4:1.
- New Georgia authority covering the admissibility of "reverse 404(b)" evidence offered by criminal defendants. *See* § 29:14.
- *Yamaha Motor Mfg. Corp. of Am. v. Hall,* considering the concept of "opening the door" to excluded evidence based on opening statements. *See* § 7:4.
- Georgia Supreme Court precedent on the introduction of a life-sized replication of the victim's bedroom closet in a murder case. *See* § 10:3.
- *King v. State,* clarifying when a defendant is "tried" for purposes of Georgia's speedy trial statutes. *See* § 2:3.
- Attorney-client privilege considerations related to in-house counsel who lacks an active license to practice law. *See* § 18:6.

This 2026-2027 Edition replaces the 2025-2026 Edition, which now may be recycled or discarded.