

PREFACE TO THE 2026 EDITION

This year marks the 23rd year since the initial publication of North Carolina Juvenile Code: Practice and Procedure, a work that has been in continuous production since 2003. This edition provides the same comprehensive, up to date treatment of the juvenile law in North Carolina which continues to be unmatched in its coverage of the law regarding child welfare, juvenile delinquency, undisciplined actions, termination of parental rights actions, emancipation and the Interstate Compact. Noteworthy changes in the present edition include:

- A new section on Filing a Juvenile Petition;
- A new section on Juvenile Hospitalization;
- A new section on Hearings on a Change of Placement in Adoptive or Long Term Placements;
- A new section on Presumed Court Jurisdiction;
- A new section on Expungement from the Responsible Individual's List;
- Comprehensive updates on new case law and legislation affecting juvenile court proceedings; and
- Updated forms.

I would like to thank all those persons who have over the past 23 years made this publication possible, including those editors at Thompson Reuters who have brought the yearly updates to market and the many others who have made this work a success. I would also like to thank those who have purchased this work over the years and continue to hope that my labors might assist you in your important work, whether that involves representing parents, juveniles, a county department of social service agency, or those, like myself, who attempt to render fair, impartial and appropriate decisions from the bench.

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