

INTRODUCTION TO THE 2026 EDITION

Compliance Programs and the Corporate Sentencing Guidelines continues to offer a practical guide for compliance professionals and counsel to use in building a sound compliance program and reducing the risk of corporate wrongdoing. We are pleased to release this 2026 Edition with updates regarding significant developments in sentencing and official guidance.

New features and recent developments in the 2026 Edition include but are not limited to:

- Revised discussion on the continuing evaluation of the guidelines system, see § 1:14.
- Expanded guidance on defining effective compliance and ethics programs, including updated commentary and perspectives from recent DOJ positions and speeches, see §§ 4:5, 4:22.
- Updated discussion on mitigating risks, including new focus on artificial intelligence risks in compliance, see § 6:25.
- New section on the Department of Justice's evaluation of compliance programs, see § 10:10.
- Revised guidance on government-mandated ethics and compliance training, see § 12:34.
- Updated content addressing DOJ whistleblower programs and guidance, including new sections and revised titles, see §§ 14:13, 14:16, 14:17, 14:18.
- New guidance on DOJ criminal prosecution priorities and enforcement focus, see §§ 23:3, 23:4.
- New section on 2025 guidance for court-imposed monitors, see § 23:17.