

**Editor's Introduction to
Federal Jury Practice and Instructions
Criminal Companion Handbook,
2026 Edition**

Federal Jury Practice and Instructions Criminal Companion Handbook is designed to assist the reader in the preparation of federal criminal jury instructions by providing a survey of instructions used in real cases as well as author commentary and tips related to the use of the pattern instructions, research references, and related materials.

Each chapter starts with an overview that explains the law addressed in that chapter. Each section is titled based on the criminal charges at issue in the case examples and contains references to corresponding sections of the full *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions* set or to relevant circuit instructions.

The 2026 edition includes new jury instructions from eleven real world cases, on such topics as: possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offence (chapter 19); concealing material facts from the federal government (chapter 20); aiding and abetting second degree murder (chapter 24); illegal gambling businesses (new chapter); possession of controlled substances with intent to distribute (chapter 42); and making false statements on tax returns (chapter 45).