

Introduction to the 2026 Edition

This book answers questions that regularly confront trial lawyers and judges. Although no single method can be used in a civil trial case, this book covers several strategies and approaches for addressing commonly faced problems. By the use of practice tips, examples, checklists, and forms, this book will provide trial lawyers with the basis for greater success in their cases.

This Practice Guide is written as a reference for attorneys who take civil trial cases. The structure of the book is set up to help attorneys find fast, reliable answers and practical guidance. Some of the features that enhance the practicality of the book include:

- Outline format, with dashes indicating the levels of the hierarchical organization.
- Case names, statutes and rules in *italic* to help them stand out from the text.
- Bold section headings for easy reference.
- Forms and checklists as a guideline for procedures and in drafting documents.

In order to perpetuate the helpfulness of this book, practice guides will be updated regularly. In the revisions, we plan to provide not only the latest changes in law, but also an increased collection of forms, checklists, and helpful examples and tips.

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- 3:73. Pretrial motions—Motion to strike evidence or pleadings or for other sanctions for discovery abuse
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- 16:123. Collateral estoppel (issue preclusion)—Requirements
- 17:137. Grounds—Erroneous jury charge
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- 17:199. Motion for new trial—Showing required