PREFACE

This handbook is intended to be a convenient reference to Louisiana criminal jury instructions and procedures for lawyers and judges. It is derived from Joseph and Lamonica, 17 Louisiana Civil Law Treatise, Criminal Jury Instructions and Procedures, Third Edition (Thomson Reuters, 2012) (sometimes referred to as Treatise). It is current through the 2019 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

The “Table of Laws and Rules” may be used as a convenient index to the Revised Statutes’ references to crimes.

We call particular attention to the Preface of the Treatise editions and our acknowledgment of appreciation to those who participated in the preparation of the original work.

Writing jury instructions which have not been approved by the appellate courts is an uncertain enterprise. Many less-than-certain decisions have been made by the authors. We attempt to highlight those decisions in the necessarily cryptic Comments and references, as well as the introductory sections of the handbook. Careful scrutiny continues to be essential.

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