

# The Pretrial Process



# The Pretrial Process

THIRD EDITION

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# Preface

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The origins of this book go back to 1990, when Professor Tanford started trying to develop a set of teaching materials for students in the Indiana University Community Legal Clinic. These students had to perform basic civil litigation tasks like drafting pleadings, interviewing and counseling clients, developing facts, preparing interrogatories, taking depositions, and filing motions, but had little idea how to go about them. No other course in the curriculum covered these issues and we could find no textbook that covered all stages of pretrial litigation comprehensively, pragmatically, and succinctly without being over-simplified, so we began working on our own materials. This book and its supplements are the result. Our goal has been to write about pretrial litigation in a way that makes this book useful both to clinical students working on their first cases and to students taking a separate pretrial litigation class who expect an intellectually satisfying law school experience.

One cannot write a book without the support and encouragement of family and colleagues. Professor Tanford would like to thank his family—Philippa, Philippa, and Jamie—for their patience and understanding. He also owes a debt to his father, Charles Tanford, who inspired him to pursue an academic career and instilled in him that scholarship must be both thoughtful and useful. In his honor, we have named the characters in this book after the important historic scientific figures mentioned in his own book, *CHARLES TANFORD & JACQUELINE REYNOLDS, THE SCIENTIFIC TRAVELER* (1992).

Professor Keele would like to thank Professor Tanford, to whom he is deeply indebted for the invitation to collaborate on this book and for his ongoing instruction, guidance, mentoring, and friendship. Professor Keele would also like to thank his wife, Kelli, and their four children, Jolie, Macy, Emory, and Witten, for their constant encouragement.

Throughout this book, we use Monroe County, Indiana as the location for most events, because that is a city both authors are familiar with. Where reference to a specific court is necessary, we use the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Indiana, which does not actually exist. Unless otherwise attributed, that hypothetical court is not intended to bear any actual resemblance to the Southern District of Indiana, which does exist.

December 1, 2021

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