Core Criminal Procedure

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Learning Through Multiple-Choice Questions

SECOND EDITION

Kathy Swedlow



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Preface

For many years, I taught criminal law and criminal procedure to law students. Every term, my students would ask me to recommend comprehensive study materials that would both help them in class and on the bar exam. But there were none. Hornbooks provide comprehensive coverage but don't help with test-taking skills. And study aids and bar preparation materials are ill-suited for formative use, as they sample topics instead of providing comprehensive treatment of discrete topics.

I wrote the first edition of this book in 2017 to fill this gap: to provide bar-style multiple choice questions that can be used formatively, as students are progressing through a law school criminal procedure class, or as law school graduates are preparing for the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE). The second edition continues this tradition. It has new sections, 50 new questions, and has been revised to address the latest United States Supreme Court opinions and other developments in the law.¹

The first half of the book consists of 500 multiple choice questions divided between four chapters: Core Constitutional Concepts, Fourth Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and Sixth Amendment. The questions in the first chapter address how the Supreme Court interprets the Constitution to affect issues of criminal procedure. The questions in the following three chapters address the same topics covered in most law school criminal procedure classes, and by the bar examiners in the MBE. Each chapter is broken down into subsections; each subsection begins with a question explaining a basic concept, and subsequent questions walk the reader through the most common variations on that concept. Questions are written in the same format used by bar examiners, so that law students and bar studiers can sharpen their test-taking skills as they learn (or just review) criminal procedure.

The second half of the book consists of answers accompanied by concise explanations. The explanations include relevant citations, so students can refer to their casebooks for more detailed information. In many instances and for ease of reading, I excluded parenthetical information describing omissions from a quotation, *e.g.*, footnotes, emphasis, internal citations, etc.

No one writes or revises a book all on her own. As always, I've had the support of my friends and family, and I thank them for all their help along the way. But I'm especially grateful to Erik Altmann, and for all the ways he makes life—even during a pandemic—so much fun.

^{1.} Coverage is current through the Supreme Court's 2020–2021 Term. Unless a specific question indicates otherwise, readers should assume that marijuana is strictly illegal.