# Georgia's Criminal Justice System

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# Georgia's Criminal Justice System

#### Second Edition

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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Robinson, Deborah Mitchell, author.

Title: Georgia's criminal justice system / by Deborah Mitchell Robinson.

Description: Second edition. | Durham, North Carolina: Carolina Academic

Press, LLC, [2019] | Series: State-specific criminal justice series |

Includes index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2019032175 | ISBN 9781611634105 (paperback) | ISBN 9781531017743 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Criminal justice, Administration of--Georgia. Classification: LCC HV9955.G4 R63 2019 | DDC 364.9758--dc23 LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2019032175

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS 700 Kent Street Durham, North Carolina 27701 Telephone (919) 489-7486 Fax (919) 493-5668 www.cap-press.com

Printed in the United States of America

This textbook is dedicated to James Stanley Mitchell, Ed.D. (1939–2008). His influence on me, both personally and professionally, is immeasurable and everlasting. For the love of academe and of writing that he gave to me, I will be forever grateful. I love and miss you, Daddy!

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### Series Note

Carolina Academic Press' state-specific criminal justice series fills a gap in the field of criminal justice education. One drawback with many current introduction to criminal justice texts is that they pertain to the essentially non-existent "American" criminal justice system and ignore the local landscape. Each state has its unique legislature, executive branch, law enforcement system, court and appellate review system, state supreme court, correctional system, and juvenile justice apparatus. Since many criminal justice students embark upon careers in their home states, they are better served by being exposed to their own states' criminal justice systems. Texts in this series are designed to be used as primary texts or as supplements to more general introductory criminal justice texts.

## Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge all of the Criminal Justice students at Valdosta State University who have purchased, read and given me feedback on the first edition of this textbook. Their valuable input has helped me to better identify appropriate changes and updates found in this second edition. I also want to continue to thank Beth Hall and the entire staff at Carolina Academic Press for their invaluable support and resources, making this a continuing exciting and fun project.

### **Second Edition Preface**

Much has changed within the State of Georgia since the writing and publication of the first edition of *Georgia's Criminal Justice System* six years ago. In this second edition, the major foundation and components of the CJS are included, with a focus on how each interacts with the others to create the complete system. Since 2012, new laws and procedures for law enforcement, the courts and corrections have been developed, which are included within each corresponding chapter. In addition, the state's juvenile justice system underwent a complete overhaul, changing not only state statutes that govern juveniles, but other processes that relate to juveniles, such as probation and aftercare, all of which are updated in this edition.

New to this edition, key terms have been added for each chapter, providing the reader with an additional focal point for important and relevant terms and concepts. All chapter terms are gathered together in a handy glossary at the end of the book. The victims' rights chapter has been moved to later in the book in order to keep discussion of "police, courts, corrections" together earlier in the book. Each chapter has been updated with recent data and other analyses to provide the most current information from all aspects of Georgia's criminal justice system.

Deborah Mitchell Robinson June 17, 2019