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Series Editor's Foreword

The Carolina Academic Press Mastering Series is designed to provide you with a tool that will enable you to easily and efficiently “master” the substance and content of law school courses. Throughout the series, the focus is on quality writing that makes legal concepts understandable. As a result, the series is designed to be easy to read and is not unduly cluttered with footnotes or cites to secondary sources.

In order to facilitate student mastery of topics, the Mastering Series includes a number of pedagogical features designed to improve learning and retention. At the beginning of each chapter, you will find a “Roadmap” that tells you about the chapter and provides you with a sense of the material that you will cover. A “Checkpoint” at the end of each chapter encourages you to stop and review the key concepts, reiterating what you have learned. Throughout the book, key terms are explained and emphasized. Finally, a “Master Checklist” at the end of each book reinforces what you have learned and helps you identify any areas that need review or further study.

We hope that you will enjoy studying with, and learning from, the Mastering Series.

Russell L. Weaver
Professor of Law & Distinguished University Scholar
University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law

Preface

It is not easy to capture all of criminal law in one relatively small book. With different state statutes, and also a federal system, it is difficult to include all of the nuances in the law. The Model Penal Code has exerted a substantial influence on the development of state statutes, despite it not being adopted in complete form by any jurisdiction. This book covers the major points that are discussed in many criminal law courses. It is intended to provide an overview of this important subject, as opposed to a resolution of a specific problem or case. The authors hope that this book will offer students an easier road in comprehending the subject area of criminal law.

There are many to thank, including Brooklyn Law School, Florida State University College of Law, Santa Clara University Law School, Stetson University College of Law, Wayne State University Law School, and Deans Jocelyn Benson, Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz, Don Polden, Dana Brakman Reiser, Larry Solan, and Joan Wexler.

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