FOREWORD

This is the eighth edition of The Improvement of the Administration of Justice, popularly known as the “Handbook on Judicial Administration.” The previous edition was published in 2001. While the Lawyers Conference of the ABA’s Judicial Division discussed revising the seventh edition several years ago, we knew it would be a daunting task requiring exceptional effort and dedication. However, we also knew it should be done because it had been more than a decade since the last edition. In doing so, we sought to create a book that would be not just a source of knowledge for people already familiar with the field of judicial administration, but also a reference book for those who wanted to become familiar with the judicial system and how it was managed. Therefore, it is intended as both a reference book and a textbook on judicial administration.

Ultimately, Michael G. Bergmann, then Chair of the Lawyers Conference and more recently Chair of the Judicial Division, proceeded to establish a committee to accomplish the task of revising the book. We are grateful to Michael for his perspicacity in selecting an array of impressive members to appoint to the committee, each with particularly relevant experience to provide in guiding this project to a successful conclusion. The members of the committee are Pamila J. Brown, Judge, Howard County District Court; William C. Carpenter, Jr., Judge, Superior Court of Delaware; Jerrold J. Ganzfried, Partner, Holland and Knight LLP; James G. Gilbert, Judge, USPS Judicial Office; Marla Greenstein, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct; Randy J. Holland, Justice, Delaware Supreme Court; Nancy Joseph, Judge, Eastern District Court of Wisconsin; Matthew H. Lembke, Partner, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP; and Mary C. McQueen, President, National Center for State Courts. We thank the committee members for their time, guidance, contributions of knowledge, and efforts to help review the chapters included in this book.
The key force behind the development and eventual production of this book was Dr. Peter M. Koelling, Director and Chief Counsel of the ABA’s Judicial Division. As our editor, Peter was instrumental in locating authors from the previous edition who could update their prior work, as well as finding authors to provide new chapters for the new edition. He prepared a matrix of the fifty-plus authors who contributed to this book, the phases necessary to complete the book, and the status of the project, which he updated regularly to keep the committee informed of the progress. Peter also presided over many of the committee meetings to discuss this book. Without Peter’s diligence, time-consuming effort, and particular insight into the subject matter of the book, this project would not have been completed. We cannot thank him enough for his participation in this project.

Most importantly, we thank the many authors who provided their time and expertise to prepare the chapters that are contained in this book. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

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