About the Authors

Joel Cohen is a highly respected white collar criminal defense lawyer in New York. He has practiced in that field, as well as complex civil litigation, at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP for nearly 30 years, after having worked for ten years as a prosecutor with the New York State Special Prosecutor’s Office and then with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Organized Crime and Racketeering Section in the Eastern District of New York. Joel writes regularly for the New York Law Journal, The Hill, Huffington Post, law.com, and others on criminal law, legal ethics, and social policy. He frequently lectures lawyers, judges, and the public on varied issues, including ethics and religion. He has taught professional responsibility and currently teaches a class at Fordham Law School, “How Judges Decide,” based on his earlier book, Blindfolds Off: Judges on How They Decide, published by ABA Publishing in 2014. Joel has published several works of Biblical fiction, including Moses: A Memoir, David and Bathsheba: Through Nathan’s Eyes, and Moses and Jesus: A Conversation. Finally, he has also authored Truth Be Veiled, a Justin Steele Murder Case, a novel that addresses the criminal lawyer’s dilemma in dealing with the truth.

Dale J. Degenshein has practiced law since 1984, and has worked at Stroock since 2007. She frequently writes articles on the law and contributed to Blindfolds Off as well as Joel’s periodic articles over the last four years.