Foreword

This book is the sixth in a series that started in 2008 when leaders of the Section of State and Local Government Law took up the challenge of trying to extend the reach of the Section’s scholarship beyond its membership. Those leaders saw a great opportunity in republishing the “hot topics” presentations made at the Section’s meetings, which are then edited and published in the Section’s scholarly quarterly journal, The Urban Lawyer. Members of the Section receive The Urban Lawyer and have greatly enjoyed and gained from the scholarship and timeliness of those hot topics articles. But not everyone subscribes to The Urban Lawyer, and there was interest within the Section and from beyond in having a compendium of the articles in a handy, single, smaller volume. The At the Cutting Edge series has proved to be popular and a means by which many others can now have access to the best writing in the field.

The first volume of this annual series was honored by the National Association of Real Estate Editors with its Bronze Award in the Third Annual Robert Bruss Book Awards program for its originality, readability, accuracy, coverage of the subject, and scholarship. The following four volumes have been widely acknowledged to have met or exceeded the high standard set by the award-winning first issue.

If you enjoy this volume as much as you and others have appreciated the prior books, and it encourages you to read further in the subject matter and perhaps join our section if you are not already a member, then we will have achieved our objectives. We hope you will look forward to receiving and reading our 2015 edition of At the Cutting Edge when it is published the same time next year.

Finally, for those of you who have been collecting the series, you will note that there is no At the Cutting Edge 2013. Rest assured there is no gap in coverage, and you have not missed any of the hot topics articles. We simply decided to publish the volume early in the calendar year rather than at the end.