PREFACE

On January 11, 2006, the editors sat down at a conference table in Dallas, Texas with this book’s first edition in hand. Our goal was to make the second edition the best we could possibly create. The editors poured over the first edition’s original outline until we thought it was practically publishable in its own right. We then gathered a large and talented team of contributors and advisors and asked them to make our vision of this book a reality. They did. Then, the editors pulled it all together to make it into one book with one voice. We think we accomplished our goal but you are the real judge of our efforts.

Along the way, we learned a lot. We learned this was a huge project and every contributor and advisor stepped up in a grand way to make it happen. Some folks drafted, some researched, some proofed, some edited, some provided commentary, some vetted issues, some brainstormed. Each played a valuable part in making this book the research tool that it is. We learned that without legal secretary extraordinaire Annie Martinez’s skill and good nature, the individual chapters would never have come out as good as they are. We also learned that law students Kimberly Cobol (Loyola) and Stephen Leys (Notre Dame) know more about footnotes and Blue Book cite formatting than all of us combined. We have an index to this book, something that ABA Publishing is just starting to do but is a must to make this book particularly valuable. We have a bibliography because certain among us thought it was a labor whose time had come (and they were right). Finally, we have a list of Indemnity Agreement cases, by jurisdiction, that will help everyone find virtually every Indemnity Agreement case decided in their state.
But, chief among these things, we learned that the Indemnity Agreement is at the core of all that we do in the surety industry. And, for those of us who love what we do, it is the source of much of our passion. We have all been very passionate about this book. We hope some of that passion is both evident to the reader and inspiring to the practitioners who will use this book for years to come.

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