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# FOREWORD

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This book translates the wisdom of hundreds of trial lawyers through the judgment of a superb advocate to produce in one place a thesaurus of litigation practice in which humor and grace are never far away. Jim McElhaney is well known to the members of the American trial bar for his lectures (performances) on advocacy and for his great works in *Trial Notebook*. The chapters in this new collection live up to our expectations of McElhaney and the book is a matched companion for *Trial Notebook*, which mainly describes trial parts and slices of litigation technique. *McElhaney's Litigation* expands on the subject to include in greater detail and variety all aspects of litigation, and it more nearly exhausts each aspect. Both books include the real and frequently funny vignettes of trials and courtroom incidents that are the McElhaney trademarks. *Litigation* provides an explanation of techniques, strategies, and rationales to complete any particular trial topic under discussion. For example, cross-examination is presented in some seventy-two pages with such chapter headings as "The Runaway," "Pressure Points," "Breaking the Rules of Cross," and "Liar." Who can resist reading with those hooks, and nine additional chapters on cross-examination, to capture the imagination?

So McElhaney has done it again. A delightful and extraordinarily useful collection of the best writings of the best writer of our generation on litigation to join *Trial Notebook*. And if you are a man or a woman of steel, you can resist turning to "Games Judges Play" like "Simon Says" (p. 295) and "ZAP" (p. 296). But I could not resist reading and reading and reading just a little bit more.

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