Foreword

Commercial space is a new and developing area both businesswise and in the law—and that is why this book is so timely. Matthew Kleiman, Jenifer Lamie, and Maria-Vittoria “Giugi” Carminati, each of whom I have had the great fortune to know over the past several years, understand that space is the future, and have the vision to provide a guidebook for this future.

Regardless of where you practice, whether in a private space company, the government, or at a law firm, you will likely come across common issues, such as where does space begin, what is an orbital vehicle, what laws govern a space vehicle, or how do the export laws affect space.

Treatises on public space law already exist and those for commercial space will eventually come. What The Laws of Spaceflight: A Guidebook for New Space Lawyers provides, instead, is a practical guidebook that will help attorneys quickly obtain a basic understanding of spaceflight, the industry, and legal issues their clients may confront. This book is handily broken up into concise sections. One day you may need guidance on the technical aspects of spaceflight and then you can quickly go to chapter 1. Another day you may need clarity on export compliance, and then you can simply flip to chapter 9. The book may not answer all your questions, but it will give you the basic information you need and the tools you may require to identify the issues and move forward.

So I encourage you to keep this book on your desk and use it as a handy reference guide as you develop your career. And who knows, some day you may even take it to space.

—Marc Holzapfel
Senior Vice President & Legal Director
Virgin Galactic, LLC