

Preface

This edition of the *Franchise Deskbook* reflects the third update and revision of the text that was initially published over fifteen years ago. Over its life, the *Deskbook* has proven to be a valuable resource for lawyers working in franchise law; for those of us who have worked on it, the process of researching, writing, and editing it has been an exceptionally rewarding discipline.

With this edition, we have introduced a number of innovations. Principal among them is the use of a template of questions for each chapter's commentary, a format first pioneered in the Forum's publications in its *Covenants Against Competition* monograph. We hope the template will help the reader locate relevant topic discussions of and readily permit comparison of one state's treatment of an issue with that of another. Behind the scenes, we have designated certain chapter editors as "senior" editors who will rotate off active participation on the *Deskbook* while "junior" editors take their place and make room for new blood.

We want to thank all of the authors who contributed to this edition, as well as those who preceded them. The *Deskbook* is one of the Forum's most important publications, and the work that its authors do is exacting and exhaustive. Their contributions will be appreciated by franchise lawyers for years to come.

Finally, consistent with the Forum's tradition of opening pathways to leadership, Michael Garner, who conceived of the *Deskbook* and has served as its editor, will become editor emeritus after this edition's publication, and Bethany Appleby and Karen Satterlee will take over the editorial duties.

We hope that this edition of the *Deskbook* will find a permanent home on your desk or bookshelf!

Bethany Appleby
W. Michael Garner
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Editors