

## FEATURES

- 4**     **Bringing Baghdad into the Courtroom**  
SHOULD COMBAT TRAUMA IN VETERANS BE PART OF  
THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE EQUATION?  
By Christopher Hawthorne  
In earlier eras it was known as nostalgia, shell-shock, combat fatigue. Today psychiatrists call it PTSD—post-traumatic stress disorder—a long-term and debilitating aftereffect of war. One study estimates 300,000 veterans will return from Iraq and Afghanistan with combat-related PTSD. Some of them will commit violent crimes. In this article the author discusses the use of PTSD as a defense—its advantages and disadvantages; its history and its current acceptance by juries and judges; case law; comparisons to the insanity plea and self-defense; and its use as a mitigating factor at sentencing.
- 14**    **E-Filing and Privacy**  
WHAT EVERY LAWYER NEEDS TO KNOW  
By Rebecca Hulse  
With the passage of the E-Government Act of 2002, government records went electronic, making them available anywhere, anytime, and to anyone with computer access. Recognizing that some court records contain information that should remain private, the Supreme Court enacted rules that require lawyers to redact data such as Social Security numbers, home addresses, taxpayer IDs, the names of minors, financial account numbers, and birth dates. Some state laws go even further. In this article the author examines the many ways in which lawyers can innocently fail in their duty to protect a client’s information and details what tools are available to avoid malpractice suits or Rule 11 challenges.
- 20**    **Disability Discrimination Law in Correction Facilities**  
By John Parry  
There’s little doubt that conditions in American jails, prisons, and secure treatment facilities are inadequate. For inmates who suffer mental or physical disabilities, the situation is far worse. In fact, Amnesty International has termed the situation “inhumane.” Historically, a prisoner’s recourse has been limited to that relief provided by the U.S. Constitution and federal civil rights laws. In this article, author John Parry examines the state of the law today, including the legislation and case law that define what constitutes a “covered” disability; the right to treatment, accommodation, and education; and the means to litigating on behalf of the disabled inmate.
- 30**    **Sentencing Advocates Enhance Reasoned Court Decisions**  
By Sharon Patrick and Jill Miller  
Two experts make the case for defense-based sentencing advocacy as a means to ensure a fairer and more reasonable outcome once a defendant is convicted. The authors argue that this not only benefits the individual but society as a whole in that judges will often impose shorter sentences or alternatives to incarceration—both of which relieve the overburdened penal system. Here they delineate the role of the advocate, what qualities a defense lawyer should seek in a potential advocate, the cost of employing an advocate, as well as the advocate’s independent duties to the justice system.

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*Criminal Justice* (ISSN 0887-7785) is published quarterly as a service to its members by the American Bar Association Section of Criminal Justice. Copyright © 2009 American Bar Association. Editorial, advertising, circulation, subscription offices: 321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654-7598. Section offices: ABA, 740 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-1009.

The price of an annual subscription for members of the Section of Criminal Justice (\$20) is included in their dues and is not deductible therefrom. Any member of the ABA may join the Section of Criminal Justice by sending annual dues of \$40 to the Section; ABA membership is a prerequisite to Section membership. Individuals and institutions not eligible to join the ABA may subscribe to *Criminal Justice* for \$48 per year, \$57 for subscriptions addressed outside the United States and its possessions. Single copies are \$10 plus \$5.95 for postage and handling. For information on subscriptions and back issues, contact the ABA Service Center at (800) 285-2221.

Manuscript submissions and letters to the editor are encouraged. Articles accepted for publication are subject to editing and letters must run no more than 750 words. Opinions expressed in the magazine do not necessarily reflect the policies of the editorial board, the Section, or the American Bar Association.

Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, Illinois, and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send changes of address to ABA Service Center, 321 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60654-7598. **Members:** Go online at [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org) and click on "Member Tools" and "Change Your Address."

Advertising Sales: Director, William McDonough, 312/988-6114; Business Manager, Anne Bitting, 312/988-6115. Address all advertising orders, contracts, and materials to ABA Publishing Advertising Sales, 321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654-7598. Email request for reprints to [copyright@abanet.org](mailto:copyright@abanet.org)

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