

FOREWORD

The Appellate Defenders, Inc., California Criminal Appellate Practice Manual is designed to assist attorneys representing criminal defendants on appeal in California. It addresses common matters often encountered in appellate practice and gives attorneys a guide through each phase of the entire process. The manual is on the ADI website¹ and is also available in hard copy form.² Use is subject to the Agreement at the beginning of the manual.³

The manual discusses a great variety of topics in law and procedure, practice, ethics, and policy. Some of the material is basic, but much is advanced, based on extensive research. The manual is divided into nine chapters:

- Chapter 1 – basic information for appointed counsel
- Chapter 2 – what can be appealed and how to get an appeal started
- Chapter 3 – record completion, extensions, release on appeal
- Chapter 4 – issue spotting and selection
- Chapter 5 – briefing
- Chapter 6 – oral argument
- Chapter 7 – decisions by reviewing courts and processes after decision
- Chapter 8 – California writs
- Chapter 9 – federal habeas corpus

The manual is the product of many years of effort. Using various sources and much original research, Executive Director Elaine Alexander and Senior Staff Attorney Howard Cohen did the primary writing (and multiple rewrites) and editing. Each chapter was reviewed by one or more ADI staff attorneys. A team of four other staff attorneys next reviewed the entire manual for correctness of substance and consistency. Law clerks and attorneys checked all citations repeatedly. ADI continually monitors new and changed authorities applicable to the topics covered in the manual and updates the online version every few months. *The most up to date version will always be the one online,* given the practicalities of hard copy printing.

We believe the Appellate Defenders, Inc., California Criminal Appellate Practice Manual is a product of great quality and usability. We hope it will be consulted regularly and routinely by new and experienced appellate practitioners alike, and that it will be a truly valuable resource to them.

¹<http://www.adi-sandiego.com/manual.html>

²<http://www.adi-sandiego.com/PDFs/Manual%20Order%20form.pdf>

³http://www.adi-sandiego.com/PDFs/Manual%20March%202011/Agreement_discclaimer.pdf