

Specialized Topics in Texas Legal Research

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DEDICATION



Matthew C. Cordon dedicates this book to
Jennifer, Chandler, and Madelynne.

* * *

Brandon D. Quarles dedicates this book to his family—
Debbie, Ashtyn, and Corban.

SUPPLEMENTATION



The authors of this text provide periodic revisions and updates at the following Web address:

<<http://law.baylor.edu/library/sttlr>>

PREFACE



In August 2003, the authors of this text completed a treatise entitled *Legal Research for the Texas Practitioner*, which is intended to provide practical guidance for law students, attorneys, and others who conduct legal research in Texas. The previous book covers resources and research processes on both a basic and an advanced level, including discussions of jury instructions, briefs and records, civil jury verdicts and settlements, and attorneys general opinions. However, the scope of the book did not permit the authors to include information about many of the subject-specific resources available to Texas practitioners.

The authors produced *Specialized Topics in Texas Legal Research* to complement the material in *Legal Research for the Texas Practitioner*. This text focuses on six specific topics of legal research in Texas: civil litigation and appeals; criminal law and procedure; business and commercial law; family law; estate planning and probate; and consumer law. Two appendices provide the following: (1) a reprint of *Texas Practice Materials: A Selective Annotated Bibliography*, which will appear as a chapter in *State Practice Materials: Annotated Bibliographies* (Frank G. Houdek ed. 2002); and (2) a select listing of state and national legal associations. Each chapter in this text provides an annotated bibliography of resources related to the respective topic, in addition to a discussion of the nature of the authorities that are pertinent to the topic. The authors have based much of the content of *Specialized Topics in Texas Legal Research* on instructional materials prepared for courses in Legal Analysis, Research

and Communications, and Advanced Legal Research at Baylor Law School.

The authors hold Juris Doctor and Master of Library Science degrees, and both are members of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, McLennan County Bar Association, American Association of Law Libraries, and Southwestern Association of Law Libraries.

The authors would like to extend their appreciation and thanks to the following individuals for their assistance during the drafting of this book: Bill Haberl, Rita Cypert, Susan Kendrick, and Linda McGennis of the Sheridan and John Eddie Williams Legal Research and Technology Center at Baylor Law School; and Rick Sowell and Ricky Lovecky of the Information Technology Department at Baylor Law School. The authors would also like to express special gratitude to Dean Brad Toben, Associate Dean Leah Jackson, and the faculty and staff at Baylor Law School for their continued encouragement, cooperation, and generous endorsements.

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