Preface

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PREFACE

In 1987 the Office of Legal Policy of the Department of Justice publicly released a report on the law of pretrial interrogation. Known as the “Miranda Report,” the publication spurred widespread academic debate even though it was initially available only in photocopied form and later in booklet form from the Government Printing Office. That report marked the beginning of an ambitious undertaking by the Office of Legal Policy to compile a series of eight articles on criminal procedure. Though these articles presented important theoretical and practical perspectives, they were not available in the common academic marketplace.

Recognizing the academic significance of these Reports, the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform presents in this Special Issue the ‘Truth in Criminal Justice Series’ in its entirety. The eight Reports cover an eclectic range of constitutional criminal procedure issues, from habeas corpus and appellate review to inferences from silence (the last and only previously unpublished Report in the series). The Journal, by transforming the original GPO publications into the more standard form of legal periodicals, and by presenting all the Reports in one Special Issue, hopes to facilitate academic discussion of these unique Reports.

This Issue contains two additional articles. The Foreword by Stephen Markman considers the context of the reports and reviews the process and intent behind the original articles, all of which were composed under his supervision while he was Assistant Attorney General for Legal Policy. Professor Grano, in the Introduction, reviews the articles as important contributions to criminal procedure discourse. This Introduction also expands the cogent analysis of criminal procedure which Professor Grano has presented throughout his tenure in academia.

This compilation of articles confronted the Journal with some unusual decisions. In order to present the series accurately, we have retained the original style and source references rather than perform our usual editorial revisions. Thus we did not implement the standard stylistic conventions of the Journal, such
as alternating masculine and feminine pronouns. The Foreword and Introduction, however, did receive comprehensive Journal editing, and any variations in style conventions and form were by the request of the authors.

Finally, we express our gratitude to several people without whom this double issue would not have been possible: Maureen Bishop and Mark Nelson, who provided indispensable advice and assistance; Professors Yale Kamisar and Jerold Israel, who oriented us to the intricacies of criminal procedure law and scholarship; and the numerous members of two volumes of the Journal who, along with our research assistant, churned out the tiresome work necessary for a double issue.

We have found this Special Issue fascinating and provocative, and are confident that it will engender active debate.

The Editorial Boards
Volume 22 and Volume 23