



SECOND EDITION

Exploring
**Criminal
Justice**

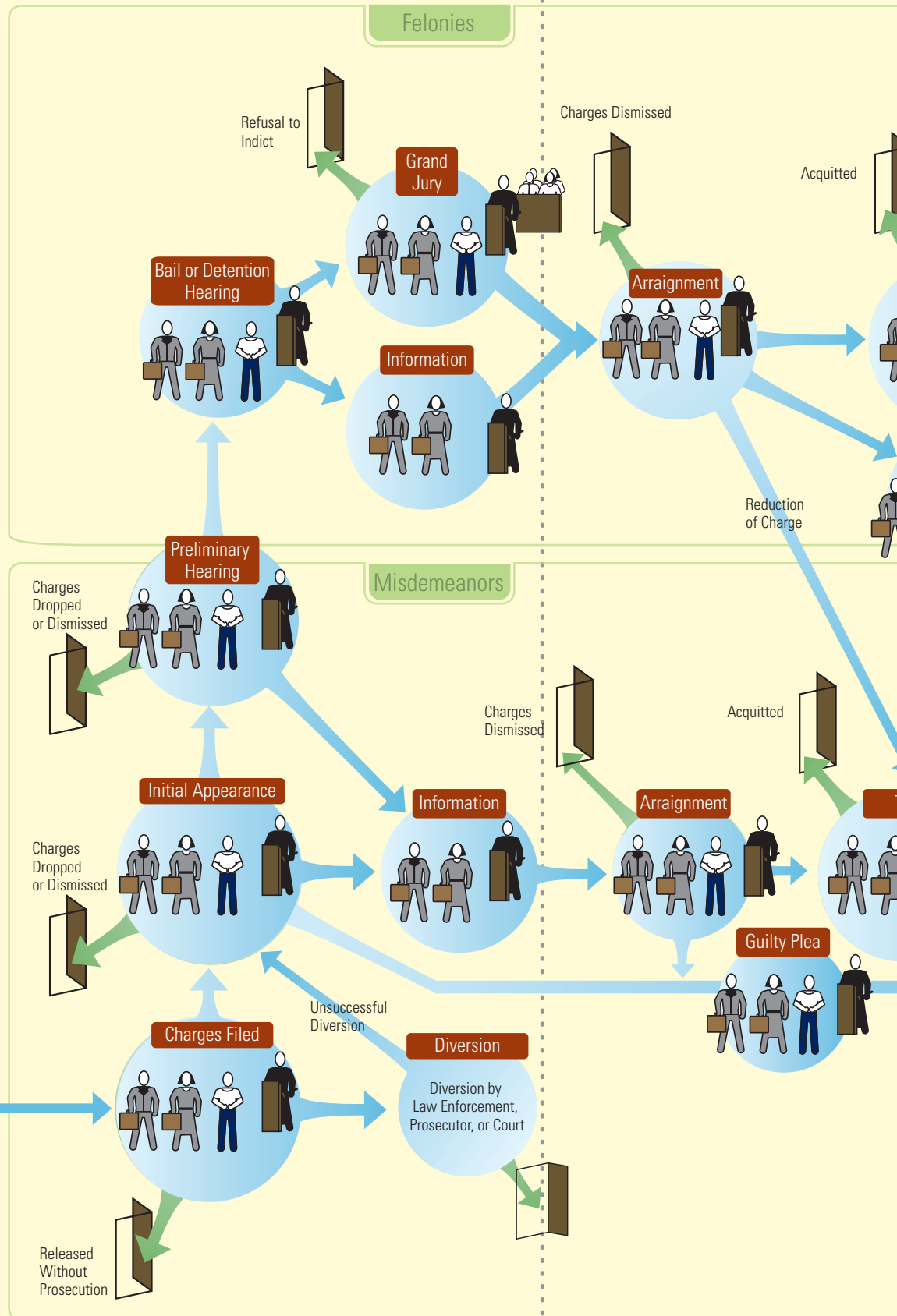
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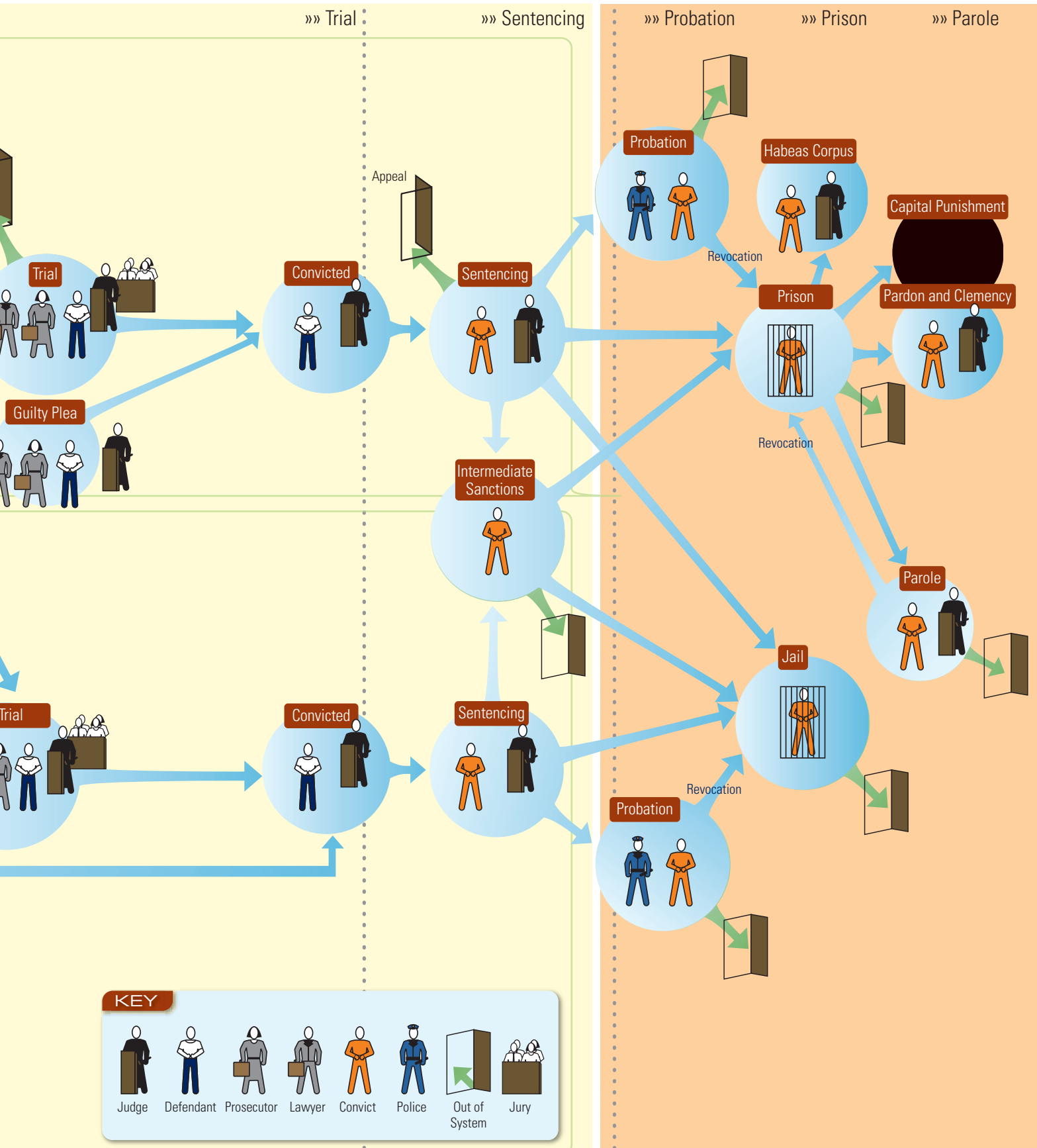
»» Entry into the System

»» Prosecution



JUSTICE SYSTEM

CORRECTIONS



SECOND EDITION

Exploring Criminal Justice

THE ESSENTIALS

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DEDICATION

For my family and friends.

—Robert M. Regoli

To those who have given me knowledge, perspective, and love.

—John D. Hewitt

To my sister, Terpsy, who paved the way for me.

—Marie-Helen Maras

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There is no doubt that some very important people in our lives were unintentionally omitted from the list. Please accept our heartfelt apology for the omission. Other colleagues selected to review the book improved the text in innumerable ways. Each went beyond what was asked and provided us with insights that we seriously considered and in most instances incorporated into *Exploring Criminal Justice: The Essentials, Second Edition*. There is no way to put into words how much your guidance along the way has meant to us.

Writing does not take place in a vacuum, and authors are not unaffected by—nor do they fail to affect—those closest to them. Our children, Adam, Andrea, Eben, and Sara; our grandchildren, R.J., Zoë, Henry, Hugh, James, and Jude; and especially our wives, Debbie and Avis, have sacrificed and shared with us in so many ways as we often obsessed over our writing. They stood alongside us, provided encouragement, support, tolerance, patience, and humor, and are appreciated much more than they ever will know.

PREFACE

Although about 1.5 million people are currently confined in state and federal prisons in the United States, crime has actually been declining for the past decade and a half. Whether this trend will continue and what the future holds are hotly debated topics among criminologists. Nonetheless, some of the most recent data produced by the Federal Bureau of Investigation suggest that both reported crimes and arrests are at their lowest levels since the early 1970s, and the National Crime Victimization Survey of victims reports similar declines in victimization rates. The number of people under sentence of death and the number of actual executions each year have fallen dramatically since they reached their peak in 2000. The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments for only about half the number of cases in 2010 than it did in 1987.

Do these trends mean that policymakers have discovered how to control (or possibly even eliminate) crime? The answer is emphatically *no*. Criminologists are not sure why crime has declined. Certainly, expenditures on the criminal justice system have not declined; some states spend more on their prison systems than they do on public education. The criminal courts are clogged with cases, and local communities continue to build more jails and detention centers. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the criminal justice system has faced a plethora of new challenges—for law enforcement, in the detection and response to terrorist activity; for the courts, in the detention and prosecution of alleged terrorists; and for corrections, in the incarceration of those convicted of terrorism.

Many students of criminal justice are curious to know about how crime is changing and how the criminal justice system is responding to those changes. Some students have already decided to major in criminal justice, while others are just beginning to explore what this major has to offer. We wrote *Exploring Criminal Justice: The Essentials* to be a useful guide for all students interested in learning more about the U.S. criminal justice system.

More than 80 years of collective college teaching experience has taught us that students come to courses with a variety of backgrounds and expectations. We believe this truism is especially valid for students taking their first course in criminal justice. Some students have family members who work in the system as police officers, attorneys, counselors, or probation, parole, or correctional officers. Other students have already had firsthand experience in the system, either as full-time employees, volunteers, or perhaps even crime victims, criminal offenders, or members of a jury. Students also come to this course with knowledge of the criminal justice system based on television dramas such as *CSI*, *Law and Order*, and *Blue Bloods*, documentaries, news programs, films, music, and other media, including comic books and violent video games. The common ground that these students share is an interest in learning more about the criminal justice system and its operation.

A good textbook is more than just a compendium of facts and figures, flow charts, and case studies. Recognizing that fact, *Exploring Criminal Justice: The Essentials* engages students in an exploration of the intricate details of the criminal justice process. It breathes life into the criminal justice system by examining its many components and

investigating how they operate in relationship to one another as well as considering the people who work in the system and what they do.

In responding to the needs of professors and their students, we have provided a text that is complete, current, clearly written, and engaging. The issues, research, policies, programs, and court cases are presented and discussed in a balanced manner intended to foster discussion and debate in addition to learning and greater understanding. We hope that both professors and students will benefit from this text as they explore our presentation of the criminal justice system and its processes.

■ Instructor Resources

- **PowerPoint lecture outlines**, providing you with a powerful way to make presentations that are both educational and engaging. Slides can be modified and edited to meet your needs.
- **Test Bank**, containing Multiple Choice, True/False, Fill-in-the-Blank, Short Answer, and Essay questions. These questions allow you to originate tailor-made classroom tests and quizzes quickly and easily by selecting, editing, organizing, and printing a test along with an answer key that includes page references to the text.
- **Lecture Outlines**, providing you with complete, ready-to-use lesson plans that outline all of the topics covered in the text. Lesson plans can be edited and modified to fit your course.

■ Student Resources

Essential components to the teaching and learning system are interactivities and additional resources that help the students grasp key concepts in criminal justice.

<http://criminaljustice.jbpub.com/cjessentials2e>

Make full use of today's teaching and learning technology with our interactive Companion Website, which has been specifically designed to complement *Exploring Criminal Justice: The Essentials, Second Edition*. Some of the resources available include:

- Vocabulary explorer including an interactive glossary, flashcards, and crossword puzzles
- Practice Quizzes to test your knowledge of the important concepts in each chapter and the corresponding answers provide references to the relevant material within the textbook.
- Web Links that can be used to research additional information on selected topics discussed in this book.

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