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Preface

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PREFACE

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit covers an area from the Arctic Circle to the Mexican Border, from Montana to the western Pacific. It includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Litigation from this vast geographic area gives rise to nearly 8,000 appeals a year. The Ninth Circuit's rulings affect nearly 50 million people, almost one-fifth of the United States' population. Known for its outspokenness, liberalism, and intellectual brilliance, it is not surprising that Ninth Circuit decisions attract the critical eye of many writers, esteemed practitioners, and other courts. This year the Supreme Court has agreed to review forty-six cases, nearly one-third are from the Ninth Court.

The twenty-second annual edition of the Ninth Circuit Survey analyzes important decisions that were decided in the 1995-96 court term. It contains notes and summaries which explain, evaluate and critique significant cases in a variety of topics. This edition also includes a detailed biography of each jurist serving on the Ninth Circuit.

The concerted efforts by the entire law review staff has produced an entirely student-managed, student-edited and student written academic journal. I would like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Professor Clifford Rechtschaffen, the entire Editorial Board, Frank Howard, numerous faculty mentors and the Ninth Circuit Survey Editors, including: Julie Coldicott, Naomi Comfort, Joseph Meckes, Carolyn Rowland and Michelle Todus. Finally, I wish to recognize the members of the Ninth Circuit Survey for their hard work, determination and tireless efforts through the process of creating this journal.

Amber A. Bell Editor, Ninth Circuit Survey