**Preface**

The fifth annual Ninth Circuit Survey is devoted to summary and analysis of decisions by the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. This issue surveys cases which were decided between August 1, 1978 and August 31, 1979. Although the court of appeals sits throughout the year, this survey will be referred to as the 1978-79 term.

Since not every noteworthy Ninth Circuit case could be thoroughly discussed, a brief description of other important cases has been provided. These cases are listed by subject matter and are entitled “Other Developments.” We are pleased to feature articles based upon recent developments in Ninth Circuit admiralty, immigration, patent and copyright law. Our sincere appreciation to Professor Bill O. Hing, David V. Ainsworth and Richard D. Harmon for graciously making these contributions to the Survey.

We sincerely regret the loss of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, and Ninth Circuit Judge James M. Carter. We congratulate Shirley M. Hufstedler on her appointment as Secretary of Education. Finally, we congratulate the new appointees to the Ninth Circuit and welcome their arrival to the court of appeals bench.