Preface to Issue 1

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The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit is the largest of the thirteen federal circuits. The Ninth Circuit encompasses Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Because the decisions of the Ninth Circuit affects nearly 51 million people, the Ninth Circuit attracts the critical eye of many writers, esteemed practitioners and law students.

The writers who have contributed to the Ninth Circuit Survey have analyzed decisions of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, applying their unique perception of law to the issues presented in each case. The Ninth Circuit Survey seeks to inform the readers of diverse social and intellectual issues embodied in the 2001-2002 court term. This edition contains student-written Notes, critiquing and analyzing recent Ninth Circuit decisions pertaining to criminal procedure and constitutional law issues. Additionally, this edition contains case summaries that provide an in-depth analysis of recent decisions impacting criminal procedure and constitutional law.

This edition of the Ninth Circuit Survey would not have been possible without the effort and dedication contributed by the entire Golden Gate University Law Review board and faculty mentors, especially Professor Mary Ann Wolcott, Robert K. Calhoun, Morton P. Cohen and Bernard L. Segal. Also, I would like to thank and acknowledge the contributions of adjunct faculty members Kristy Lynn Topham and Julie Coldicott, and associate editor Adriano Hrvatin. I congratulate and commend the Ninth Circuit Survey writers Shane Cahill, Colleen Miles, Brian Feinberg and Renée Ross for their hard work, patience and determination. Finally I thank my
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Senior Editor, Ninth Circuit Survey