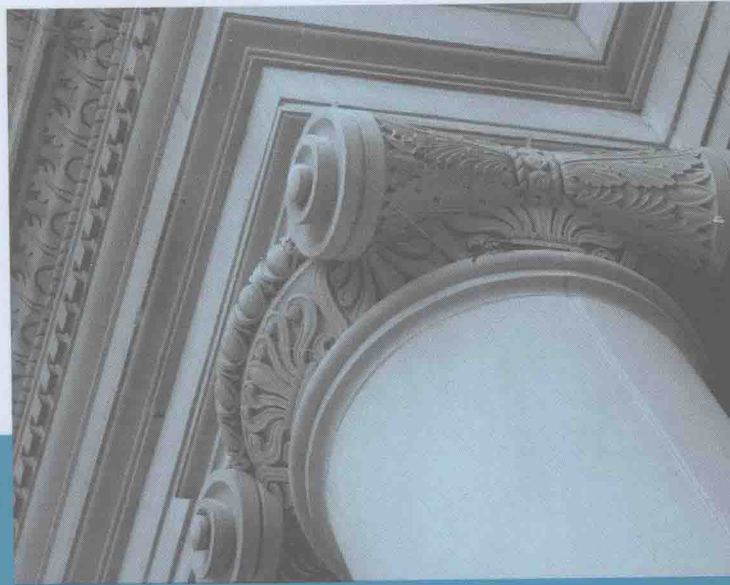


# Understanding

## CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

THIRD EDITION



Linda E. Carter  
Ellen S. Kreitzberg  
Scott Howe

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Punishment Law  
Third Edition

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# Dedication

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For Michael, Michelle, and Laura-L.E.C.

For Tom, Erika, and Kristoffer-E.S.K.

For Jetty, Mario, and Jordan-S.W.H.

# Preface

---

This book is written for students in capital punishment courses and for others, whether lawyers, experts, activists, or scholars, who are interested in an overview of this complex area of law. The primary emphasis of the book is an explanation of the constitutional law that governs death penalty proceedings in the United States. In the third edition, we have included new chapters on the military death penalty, the evolving attitudes on the death penalty reflected in moratoriums and reconsideration of the retention of capital punishment, and the death penalty worldwide.

In the few years since the second edition, significant changes have occurred in death penalty law, procedure and practice. We have tried to present the most up-to-date information and trends in death penalty law. New developments as of the time that we go to print are included, but additional cases are emerging even as we type. This is a dynamic area of law that will undoubtedly have further major developments in the next few years. Anyone studying or researching in this area should continue to look for the latest judicial, executive, and legislative actions.

We would never have been able to research and write this edition without outstanding work by our research assistants. We express great thanks to Anthony Corso, Marc Wiesner, and Alison Gilmore of Santa Clara Law; Eric Diamond and Regina Rivera of Chapman; and Jacquelin Hassell, Michael Youril, Jennifer McHugh, Jamie Garrett, Danielle Wheeler, Colin Roberts, Cassandra Shaft, and Tamana Zhublawar of Pacific McGeorge.

We also appreciate and thank our individual universities for their support of our research through research stipends and other resources.

Our families have supported our efforts through their patience and encouragement. We are truly grateful for their support.

As the law continues to evolve, so does this book. We consider this a work-in-progress. All comments, suggestions, corrections, or additions are greatly appreciated.

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