

# **A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual**



## **Immigration and Consular Access Supplement to the Thirteenth Edition**

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## PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual* was first published by the staff of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* in 1978. Since then, the number of incarcerated people in the United States has more than tripled. Now, more than ever, the *JLM* helps inform incarcerated persons of their legal rights and explains the procedures necessary to secure those rights. In other words, the *JLM* seeks to provide people in prison access to the complex American legal system. To meet these goals, the *JLM* welcomes feedback, incorporates suggestions, and continually expands coverage to new states and subjects.

To this end, the *JLM* has traditionally published several supplementary manuals for targeted prison populations. For the growing number of immigrant detainees seeking information about the U.S. immigration system, we publish an *Immigration and Consular Access (ICA) Supplement*. We are pleased to finally publish the Second Edition of the *ICA Supplement*. By publishing this information separately, we are able to keep our immigration-specific manual at a lower cost and increase the supplement's availability and utility.

All *JLM* materials and the *ICA Supplement* are available to download for free on our website: <https://jlm.law.columbia.edu/>. While we recognize that most people in prison cannot access the internet, we hope this resource will be useful for families, friends, and advocates, whom we invite to visit our website. Included on the website are additional resources as well as updates on *JLM* events and legal developments of interest.

Student members of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* at Columbia Law School write, edit, publish, and distribute the *ICA Supplement*. The responses and feedback we receive from people in prison throughout the country are our most valuable resource for improving and developing the *ICA Supplement*. We thank the many jailhouse lawyers whose helpful comments have contributed to the improvements that may be found in this edition and we ask that our readers continue to share their ideas and suggestions.

You can request information about ordering our publications by e-mailing [jlm.board.mail@gmail.com](mailto:jlm.board.mail@gmail.com) or writing to:

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Many alumni, lawyers, organizations, friends, and family made the Second Edition of the *ICA Supplement* possible with their financial, moral, and legal support. We extend our gratitude and regret we cannot recognize each by name.

Putting together a resource like the *ICA Supplement* requires the hard work and dedication of several students, professors, practitioners, and volunteers. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this publication, and particularly all the Articles Editors who spent so much of their time ensuring that we published the most accurate and readable *ICA Supplement* yet.

Additional thanks go to fellow law students and friends who volunteered their sharp eyes and time to improve the *ICA Supplement*.

Special thanks also go to those who sent artwork to the *JLM*. The cover art for this edition was contributed by Wesley Carroll. The art for the title page was contributed by Leo Schanen.

The *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* is an academic journal that publishes articles and commentary concerning legal issues of domestic and international human rights. The *Human Rights Law Review* strives to illuminate subjects of concern to advocates, activists, organizations, courts, scholars, and students of human rights around the world.

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*A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual (JLM)* and the *Immigration and Consular Access (ICA) Supplement* are written and updated by members of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*. The law prohibits us from providing any legal advice to incarcerated individuals. This information is not intended as legal advice or representation nor should you consider or rely upon it as such. Neither the *JLM* nor any information contained herein is intended to or shall constitute a contract between the *JLM*, or the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*, and any reader, and the *JLM* does not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained herein. Additionally, your use of the *JLM* and *ICA Supplement* should not be construed as creating an attorney-client relationship with the *JLM* staff or anyone at Columbia Law School. Finally, while we have attempted to provide information that is up-to-date and useful, we cannot guarantee that all information is current because the law changes frequently.