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# Georgia Criminal Law Review

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## Introduction

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## INTRODUCTION

Established in 2022, the Georgia Criminal Law Review is the University of Georgia School of Law's first new student-edited journal in nearly 30 years. The impetus for starting this new scholarly publication was five third year law school students<sup>1</sup> who recognized a need both in the state of Georgia and across the country to specifically address critical issues emerging from the field of criminal law. They worked tirelessly during the 2021–2022 academic year compiling research on aspirational institutions, meeting with faculty members, and developing a sustainability plan for a new student-led publication at the University of Georgia School of Law. Under the leadership of Dean Peter B. Rutledge, the law school hosted the First Annual Georgia Criminal Law Symposium titled “Sentencing in Georgia: Using Our Past to Propel Us Forward,” which was held at the School of Law in February of 2022. In response to the symposium, there was an outpouring of support from the criminal legal community, including state and federal judges, district attorneys, academics, community activists, and students. Thus, the *Georgia Criminal Law Review* was established in the spring of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Because the *Georgia Criminal Law Review* was established after the success of the First Annual Criminal Law Symposium, the staff were unable to solicit and publish submissions from event panelists in 2022 and 2023. Therefore, this first issue is comprised of selected panels from the 2022 First Annual Criminal Law Symposium with added annotations and citations. Although still a fledgling publication, the journal will seek to identify and address emerging legal trends that are useful for practitioners and scholars alike by producing content through easily digestible mediums. Because criminal law is one of the

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<sup>1</sup> The five founders of the Georgia Criminal Law Review: Alexandria H. Clark, Audrey C. Cunningham, Emmanuel Kyei, Richmond B. Wrinkle, and Daniel M. Zimmer, all graduated in the spring of 2023. Molly Laughlin, a rising third year law student in 2022, assisted in the establishment efforts and was selected to serve as Editor-in-Chief of Volume One.

most rapidly developing and socially significant fields of practice and scholarship, the journal will present a unique opportunity for students, scholars, and practitioners to address and pose solutions to consequential issues in the criminal legal system.