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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The genesis for the materials that follow originates from a conference organized by Professor Steven Thaman, Saint Louis University School of Law, that took place in Siracusa, Italy in 1999, *Lay Participation in the Criminal Trial in the 21st Century*. That conference focused on lay participation on juries around the world. The Public Law Review was approached with an offer to publish some of the papers that came out of that conference and we decided to focus on the articles that addressed the criminal jury in the United States. To that end, we wanted to further refine the topic to develop the issue of jury reform, especially as it pertained to the American Criminal Jury. To help facilitate discussion, we organized a Symposium, entitled *The American Criminal Jury System: An Academic's and Practitioner's Perspective*, which took place at Saint Louis University on February 8, 2002, wherein several of the participants from the Siracusa, Italy conference reconvened to discuss, from an academic standpoint, the issue of needed reform. We wish to extend our gratitude to the following participants: Darryl Brown, Professor of Law, Washington and Lee University School of Law; Richard O. Lempert, Eric Stein Distinguished University Professor of Law and Sociology, University of Michigan; William T. Pizzi, Professor of Law, University of Colorado School of Law; and Neil Vidmar, Russell M. Robinson II Professor of Law, Professor of Psychology, Duke University School of Law. We would also like to thank Professor Stephan Landsman, DePaul University, College of Law, for offering to attend the conference and the Honorable David Noce, U.S. Magistrate for the Eastern District of Missouri, for his insight and participation. The focus of this issue of the Public Law Review is for the most part devoted to the legal scholarship that was generated by the aforementioned panelists who attended our Symposium.

After working toward developing the academic's perspective on needed criminal jury reform, we decided to add a second component to our Symposium that would focus on suggested reforms from a practitioner's perspective. We were overwhelmed by the interest and enthusiasm displayed by members of the Saint Louis legal community who volunteered their time and intellectual acumen to round out our Symposium. And, while unfortunately their perspective is not represented in this Issue, their ideas will certainly carry forward in the minds of all those who attended. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the following individuals for their participation: the Honorable William D. Stiehl, U.S. District Court, Southern

District of Illinois; the Honorable E. Richard Webber, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri; Kevin Curran, Assistant Federal Public Defender; Jane Darst, First Assistant Circuit Attorney; Karen Kraft, Director of the Capital Litigation Division for the Missouri State Public Defender; Robert P. McCullough, Saint Louis County Prosecuting Attorney; Michael Reap, First Assistant United States Attorney; and Donald L. Wolff, Law Offices of Wolff and D'Agrosa. We would also like to thank Professors Camille A. Nelson and Derek P. Jinks, members of the Saint Louis University School of Law faculty who moderated the panel discussions, for their involvement.

And now, without further ado, we present, *The Jury's Role in Administering Justice in the United States*.

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