

# Tools of the Trade

## **The Judges' Benchbook & Other Online Resources**

Jessica Smith, UNC School of Government

# Jessie's Judges' Web Page: www.judges.unc.edu



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## NC Superior Court Judges

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Welcome to the School of Government's [Superior Court Judges](#) microsite. [Superior Court Judges](#) try civil cases involving more than \$25,000, felony criminal cases, and misdemeanor and infraction appeals from District Court. For many years, faculty members at the School of Government have provided educational programs, scholarly publications, and consultation services to superior court judges.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- [Orientation for New Senior Residents](#) (January 18-20, 2017) UNC School of Government
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- [Sentencing Seminar](#) (February 9-11; March 3-4; and April 7-8, 2017) UNC School of Government

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- Upcoming Events
- Materials from Past Schools & Conferences
- Online Education & Training
- Questions About an Education Event?

**PUBLICATIONS**

- NC Superior Court Judges' Benchbook
- Criminal Case Compendium
- 2016 Legislation of Interest to Court Officials
- Justice Reinvestment Resources
- Expunction & Related Relief
- Publications Relevant to the Courts
- SOG Publications Storefront

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**JESSIE SMITH ON TWITTER**

@ProfjessieSmith

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### JESSIE SMITH ON TWITTER

@ProfJessieSmith

The Benchbook is here



# Jessie's Judges' Benchbook

## NC SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES' BENCHBOOK

School of Government, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Jessica Smith (Ed.)



### Welcome to the online judges' benchbook!

There are two main ways to find what you need in the benchbook:

**Drop down menus.** Navigation bars for the benchbook's four sections (General, Criminal, Civil, Evidence) appear at the top of the page. To explore a section, move your mouse to the navigation bar and a drop down menu will appear. Get to a subsection by clicking within the drop down menu.

**Searching.** Use the "Benchbook Search" box for a text search of the entire benchbook. To search for a phrase, use quotation marks (e.g., "civil contempt"). "Expert Search" lets you limit a search to section titles, keywords, and abstracts.

Most sections are posted as PDFs. However, if the section contains items such as sample orders, a Word version also is posted so that you can download and use the form order.

The benchbook is designed primarily for online use. However, you can print out sections & keep them in a trial notebook. Either way, sign up [here](#) to receive emails about new or updated sections.

Have a suggestion for the benchbook? Send it to Jessica Smith ([smithj@sog.unc.edu](mailto:smithj@sog.unc.edu)).

### Benchbook Search

Enter terms & hit enter

### Links

- [NC Superior Court Judges web site](#)

## Four main drop down menus



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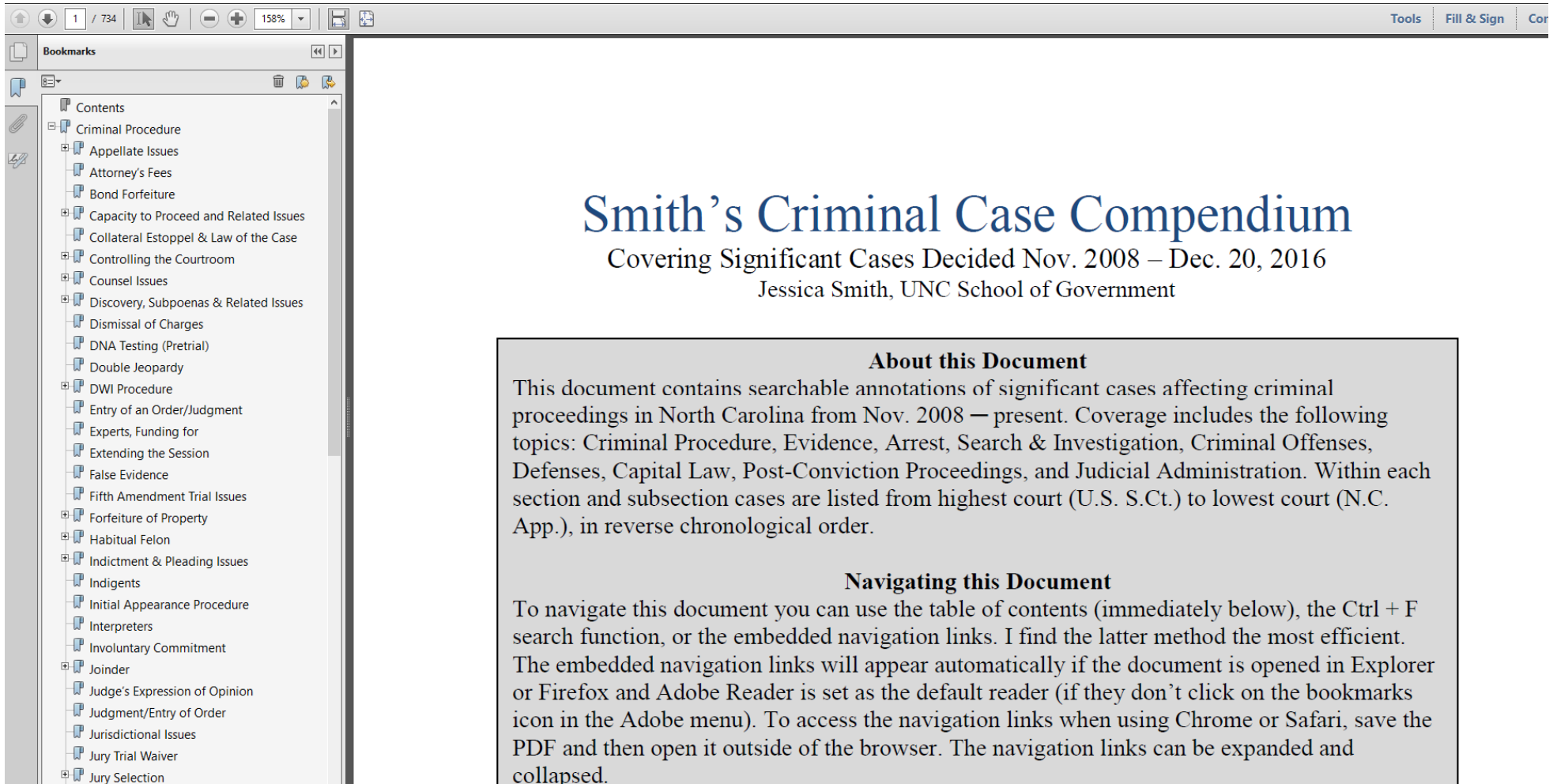


Jessie's Criminal Case Compendium is here



# Jessie's Criminal Case Compendium

Includes embedded navigation links; click on one to be taken to it in this 700+ page document  
It's also fully searchable by case name, key word, etc.



The image shows a PDF viewer interface. On the left is a 'Bookmarks' sidebar with a tree view of the document's contents. The main area displays the title page of 'Smith's Criminal Case Compendium'.

**Bookmarks:**

- Contents
- Criminal Procedure
  - Appellate Issues
  - Attorney's Fees
  - Bond Forfeiture
- Capacity to Proceed and Related Issues
- Collateral Estoppel & Law of the Case
- Controlling the Courtroom
- Counsel Issues
- Discovery, Subpoenas & Related Issues
  - Dismissal of Charges
  - DNA Testing (Pretrial)
  - Double Jeopardy
- DWI Procedure
- Entry of an Order/Judgment
- Experts, Funding for
- Extending the Session
- False Evidence
- Fifth Amendment Trial Issues
- Forfeiture of Property
- Habitual Felon
- Indictment & Pleading Issues
  - Indigents
- Initial Appearance Procedure
- Interpreters
- Involuntary Commitment
- Joinder
- Judge's Expression of Opinion
- Judgment/Entry of Order
- Jurisdictional Issues
- Jury Trial Waiver
- Jury Selection

**Title Page:**

## Smith's Criminal Case Compendium

Covering Significant Cases Decided Nov. 2008 – Dec. 20, 2016  
Jessica Smith, UNC School of Government

**About this Document**

This document contains searchable annotations of significant cases affecting criminal proceedings in North Carolina from Nov. 2008 — present. Coverage includes the following topics: Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Arrest, Search & Investigation, Criminal Offenses, Defenses, Capital Law, Post-Conviction Proceedings, and Judicial Administration. Within each section and subsection cases are listed from highest court (U.S. S.Ct.) to lowest court (N.C. App.), in reverse chronological order.

**Navigating this Document**

To navigate this document you can use the table of contents (immediately below), the Ctrl + F search function, or the embedded navigation links. I find the latter method the most efficient. The embedded navigation links will appear automatically if the document is opened in Explorer or Firefox and Adobe Reader is set as the default reader (if they don't click on the bookmarks icon in the Adobe menu). To access the navigation links when using Chrome or Safari, save the PDF and then open it outside of the browser. The navigation links can be expanded and collapsed.

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←  
**Materials from new judges' school will post here**



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The screenshot shows the UNC School of Government website. The header includes the UNC logo, a search bar, and navigation links: About, Public Officials, Topics, Courses, Publications, Blogs, Resources, MPA, Giving, Knapp Library. A secondary navigation bar contains icons for a shopping cart, user profile, and help. Below the header is a link to 'View this page on old website'. The main content area features a large photo of a group of people in a classroom setting. To the left of the photo are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Email. Below the photo is the title 'NC Superior Court Judges' and a sub-header 'MICROSITE'. The main text describes the microsite's focus on superior court judges and provides a link to 'Faculty and Staff Profiles'. A section titled 'UPCOMING EVENTS' lists three events: 'Orientation for New Senior Residents' (Jan 18-20, 2017), 'Orientation for New Superior Court Judges' (Jan 23-27, 2017), and 'Sentencing Seminar' (Feb 9-11; Mar 3-4; Apr 7-8, 2017). On the right side, there are sections for 'EDUCATION AND TRAINING', 'PUBLICATIONS', and 'OTHER RESOURCES'. The 'OTHER RESOURCES' section includes links to 'SOG Criminal Law Page', 'Subscribe to the Criminal Law Listserv', 'Subscribe to Civil Law Mailing List', 'Criminal Law Blog', 'Other SOG Courts Websites', 'Web Links and Reference Materials', and 'Sign up for notice of new postings to this page'. At the bottom right, there is a section for 'JESSIE SMITH ON TWITTER' with the handle '@ProfJessieSmith'. Two red arrows point from the right towards the 'Subscribe to Civil Law Mailing List' and 'Sign up for notice of new postings to this page' links.

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