Habeas Corpus in West Virginia

A survey of recent appellate proceedings, both at the state and federal levels, reveals a tremendous upsurge in litigation concerning the ancient writ of habeas corpus. This is due mainly to opinions handed down by the United States Supreme Court, opinions destined to have a substantial impact on the states' administration of criminal justice.¹ Such opinions have made the American public more aware of the breadth of their constitutional rights, in turn causing an expansion in the use of the habeas corpus concept of relief. There remains a high degree of confusion and uncertainty in regard to the writ. Since it is both a federal and a state remedy,


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