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**EDITORS' NOTES**

This past summer, Congress finally scaled back the (in)famously harsh mandatory minimum sentences for federal crack cocaine offenses through the passage of the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010. Many commentators have justifiably described the passage of the Fair Sentencing Act (FSA) as historic, in part because the FSA includes the first significant repeal and downward revision of federal mandatory minimum sentencing terms in nearly half a century. Many of these same commentators are hopeful that the FSA is just the first of a series of federal sentencing reforms coming from Congress that will scale back many of the most severe facets of modern federal sentencing law and practice.

But although many celebrate the passage of the FSA and look toward additional future legislative reforms, a considerable amount of legal work and practical questions are now arising in the wake of the FSA. Through primary materials and some related original commentary, this issue of *Federal Sentencing Reporter* is principally devoted to setting forth the essential facets of the FSA's change to federal sentencing law for crack offenses; the issue also spotlights and frames some critical legal, policy, and practice issues that now confront everyone dealing with the new federal sentencing landscape following the passage of the FSA.



Please send articles and editorial correspondence to:

Publication Manager  
Federal Sentencing Reporter  
E-mail: berman.43@osu.edu

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