

# LEGAL FORUMS, CLAIMS, AND DEFENSES

# 3



## 3.1 OVERVIEW

**A**s we state in the second sentence of this book's Introduction: "Several decades ago, few predicted that schools and colleges would become primary targets for lawsuits, administrative charges, and other claims asserted by a diverse group of claimants based upon so many different theories of liability." Although the main purpose of our book is to enable school administrators and counsel to proactively prevent these claims and lawsuits, even the best preventive law planning must be based on an understanding of the legal context in which potential claims and lawsuits operate.

Therefore, in Section 3.2 we provide a brief description of the most common forums in which persons in conflict with educational institutions seek to resolve their disputes. In Section 3.3 we then outline the most crucial

**Chapter 3** Legal Forums, Claims, and Defenses

concepts about legal claims and defenses encountered by educational administrators.<sup>1</sup>