Busting the Mob

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The roots of this book lie in my mid-1980s collaboration with the New York State Organized Crime Task Force (OCTF) on an investigation of corruption and racketeering in the New York City construction industry (see Corruption and Racketeering in the New York City Construction Industry, New York University Press, 1990). I owe a great debt of gratitude to my colleagues on that project for educating me concerning organized crime; thus, I wish to acknowledge Joe DeLuca, Ron Goldstock, Wilda Hess, Marty Marcus, Robbie Mass, and Toby Thacher.

Originally, my colleague, Ronald Noble, was to have joined me on this book. Indeed, he did a good deal of spade work on the Gotti chapter and was ably assisted by Alex Gendzier. But his participation ended when he became assistant secretary of the treasury in charge of law enforcement. The Clinton administration’s gain was my loss.

I have been extremely fortunate to have had the assistance of Christopher Panarella and Jay Worthington. Over seventeen years as a faculty member at Cornell and New York University, I have had many outstanding research assistants. However, none of them was more talented or hard working than were Chris and Jay. They have functioned as my colleagues on this project and I’m proud to recognize them as coauthors.

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