

Court Review

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EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue, we present Professor Whitebread's annual summary of the past Term of the United States Supreme Court. As usual, civil and criminal cases are separately reviewed, providing a good overview of the Court's most recent case law pronouncements.

We also have two features arising out of this year's annual meeting of the American Judges Association: an interview with Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket and an article by National Center for State Courts President Roger Warren. Both of them spoke at the AJA's 2000 meeting in Kansas City. We took the opportunity to visit with Chief Justice Zlaket about a number of topics of interest—public trust and confidence in the courts, what to do with pro se litigants, and why Arizona is such a hotbed of court reform, just to name a few. We also jumped at the chance to print the remarks Judge Warren made in Kansas City, which discuss the link between public confidence in the courts and the extent to which the procedures we use meet public expectations for fairness and openness.

The issue also includes a useful overview of the United States Supreme Court's recent decisions on the admissibility of expert witness testimony, in the form of the winning paper from the American Judges Association's law student writing competition. Along with that article, we also report on a new study that suggests that, in real life, the standard for admissibility of expert testimony has tightened somewhat, at least in federal trial courts.

Last, our Resource Page features its usual round-up of new books and noteworthy items, as well as a break-down of the judicial appointments of the Clinton Administration.

In closing, let me express my happiness at simply, finally, getting this issue out the door. Virtually every word that goes into *Court Review* finds its way through my own personal computer along the way, and that computer has suffered its third (and perhaps final) total breakdown, all during the preparation of this issue. Please accept my apologies, and those of my (anonymous) computer manufacturer, for the delay in publication of this issue. It's tough enough editing a journal while also holding down the "day job" as a judge that makes all of this of interest; it's too much, these days, without a working computer.—SL



Court Review, the quarterly journal of the American Judges Association, invites the submission of unsolicited, original articles, essays, and book reviews. *Court Review* seeks to provide practical, useful information to the working judges of the United States. In each issue, we hope to provide information that will be of use to judges in their everyday work, whether in highlighting new procedures or methods of trial, court, or case management, providing substantive information regarding an area of law likely to be encountered by many judges, or by providing background information (such as psychology or other social science research) that can be used by judges in their work. Guidelines for the submission of manuscripts for *Court Review* are set forth on page 17. *Court Review* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject material submitted for publication.

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Letters to the Editor, intended for publication, are welcome. Please send such letters to *Court Review*'s editor: Judge Steve Leben, 100 North Kansas Avenue, Olathe, Kansas 66061, e-mail address: sleben@ix.netcom.com. Comments and suggestions for the publication, not intended for publication, also are welcome.

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