

# Court Review

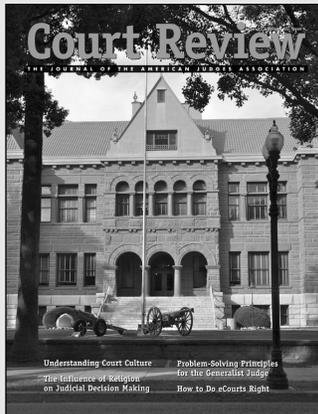
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

The lead article for this issue is an introduction to understanding court culture. In our last issue, we had a book review of the 2007 book, *Trial Courts as Organizations*, which provides a wealth of interesting data and insights. In this issue, two of the book's authors, Brian Ostrom and Roger Hanson, provide an overview of the different court cultures commonly encountered, including the results of a study of one large metropolitan trial court. Our second article is part of a continuing series looking at social-science information either about the courts or that can be readily used by judges. This time, Brian Bornstein and Monica Miller look at whether a judge's religion influences decision making. There has been a lot of research on this, and Bornstein and Miller survey the most interesting and authoritative studies.

Our third article, by Thomas Barton, is adapted from his recent book, *Preventive Law and Problem-Solving: Lawyering for the Future*. In this article, Barton looks both at problem-solving courts and the field called preventive law, focusing on how a general-jurisdiction judge—not necessarily one handling a specialized docket—may be able to use the same principles that have become the mainstays of problem-solving courts. Our final article comes from Oregon trial judge Michael Marcus, one of America's most thoughtful judges. As more and more court functions go electronic, Marcus has focused on trying to have technology provide the information most needed by judges rather than having judges play a secondary role to computers and programmers. His thoughts are well worth considering.

I close by noting the death of one of the long-time members of our Editorial Board, Professor Philip Frickey. Phil helped us in many ways for more than a decade. Recently, he helped us put together a very useful Resource Page on Indian Law; he also recruited Professor Charles Weisselberg to take over the annual review of United States Supreme Court decisions of note after the death of our longtime contributor, Charles Whitebread. We will be reorganizing our Editorial Board for the next volume, so if you have an interest, please let me know. Phil will be missed.—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 and Canada. 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 110. *Court Review* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject material submitted for publication.

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Photo credit: Mary Watkins (maryswatkinsphoto@earthlink.net). The landmark Old Orange County Courthouse in Santa Ana is Southern California's oldest court building. Today it contains the Orange County History Center (which includes the Old Courthouse Museum) and some government offices. Dedicated in 1901, the building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

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