

# Court Review

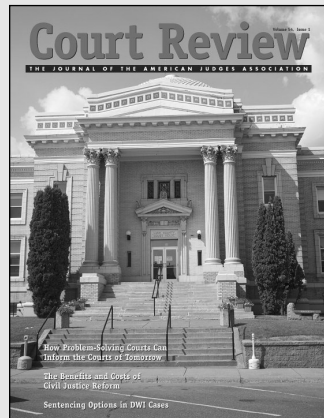
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue represents a first foray into a new era—one without Judge Steve Leben at the helm as editor. As you can see from Judge Leben's final *Editor's Note* in Volume 53:4, it takes a village of judges to replace him and the excellent job that he has done over the past 20 years. The five editors (Professor Eve Brank, and Judges David Shakes, David Prince, Devin Odell, and I) are grateful for his thoughtful leadership and guidance, and apologize to him and our readers in advance as we bumble our way through our first year as editors of this esteemed publication. Thank you all for your patience as we learn how to fill some very big shoes. Included in this issue is a tribute to Judge Leben, and I commend it to you so that you can better appreciate the impact that Judge Leben has had on this publication, and on the American Judges Association as a whole.

In addition to the tribute to Judge Leben, you'll find a number of articles of interest regarding a variety of issues of concern to judges in the U.S. and Canada. In our "Thoughts from Canada" column, Judge Wayne Gorman addresses a timely issue of interest to all judges: how stereotypical thinking can impact how we assess credibility of witnesses, particularly in sexual assault trials. Given the rise of specialty courts, Kaplan, Miller, and Wood review the history and practices of problem-solving courts and provide a look forward at how those courts can inform practices in the future. In that same vein of innovation, Paula Hannaford-Agor provides an assessment of civil-justice-reform practices. Victor Eugene Flango provides a thoughtful review of sentencing options in impaired-driving cases. And last, but certainly not least, Judge Kim Berkeley Clark shares with us her acceptance speech presented to the National Center for State Courts in November 2017, when she was awarded the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence. I found her words inspiring me to be the best judge I can be for the people in my jurisdiction. I trust you will be similarly inspired.

The crossword puzzle has a personalized theme honoring our retiring editor, so take a moment to enjoy that fun and subtle tribute. We are very pleased to announce that in future issues you will see a regular ethics column by Cynthia Gray. As many of you know, Ms. Gray is the director of the Center for Judicial Ethics that is part of the National Center for State Courts. In this recurring feature, Ms. Gray will share with us recent cases and advisory opinions that will help all of us to avoid ethical pitfalls that can sometimes sneak up on us. For a preview of her writing and an understanding of what a great repository of knowledge she is, check out her weekly blog: [www.ncscjudicialethicsblog.org](http://www.ncscjudicialethicsblog.org). Thanks for your patience during the transition of editors. Steve, you will be missed. —JKF



*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 46 of this issue. *Court Review* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject material submitted for publication.

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The Lafayette County Courthouse is located in Oxford, Mississippi and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was constructed in 1872 to replace an earlier building burned during the Civil War. The Courthouse also plays a significant role in William Faulkner's fiction, and is a centerpiece in the dramatic ending to *The Sound and the Fury*. Cover photo by Mary Watkins.

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