



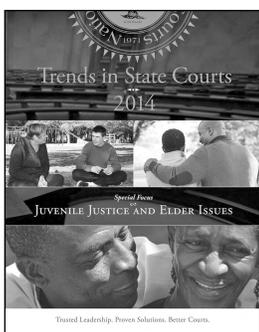
The Resource Page



NEW BOOKS

TRENDS IN STATE COURTS: 2014 (CAROL R. FLANGO, DEBORAH W. SMTH, NORA E. SYDOW, CHARLES F. CAMPBELL & NEAL B. KAUDER, EDs.). National Center for State Courts, 2014. 88 pp. (free via downloadable PDF).

<http://www.ncsc.org/trends>



The 2014 edition of *Trends in State Courts* is out, containing its usual collection of concise but authoritative articles. This year's issue focuses on issues involving

juvenile justice and the elderly. Six articles cover juvenile-justice issues, beginning with one that discusses the Models for Change Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Other articles include one on the need for early appointment of counsel in juvenile court, one on judicial leadership in addressing adolescent mental-health needs, and one on reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile-justice system.

The section on elders begins with a national review of reform efforts related to elder abuse and adult guardianships. Other articles include ones on how to enhance access to justice for seniors and an interview with the state-court administrators in Pennsylvania and Texas on the work that has been done in those states to better respond to elder-related issues.

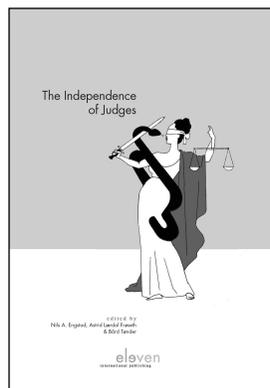
In addition to these themed articles, this year's *Trends* also contains several articles on general topics: a review of recent developments in Alaska, New York, and Utah on improving procedural fairness; discussion of New Jersey's use of technology to improve both the percentage of summoned jurors who show up

and to make it easier for jurors to serve; strategies identified to use technology to better address the challenge of self-represented litigation; and the erosion of judicial-retirement benefits during the recent economic recession.

THE INDEPENDENCE OF JUDGES (NILS A. ENGSTAD, ASTRID LAERDAL FROSETH & BARD TONDER, EDs.). Eleven International Publishing, 2014. 344 pp. (\$112.50).

The Norwegian Association of Judges published a book on judicial independence to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2012. With adaptations for an international audience, the book, originally issued in Norwegian, has been issued in English, containing 22 essays on various aspects of judicial independence. Authors include judges, lawyers, law professors, social scientists, and government officials. For those interested in cross-national perspectives on judicial independence, the book would be of interest.

Essays cover topics such as the origins of judicial independence, considerations of the tension between judicial independence and administrative efficiency, international standards on the protection of judicial autonomy, special considerations for judicial independence within the European Union, the establishment



of an independent judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina, judicial independence and public trust in courts in the Russian Federation, the independence of judges in international tribunals, considerations that arise in a multicultural society, the responsibility of judges serving under an oppressive government, and the relationship between judicial independence and the independence of the legal profession.

The book closes with an interesting essay on the relationship of judges with

the media. Law professor Ragna Aarli notes that public confidence in Norwegian courts has risen steadily from 2001 (62% with fairly high or very high confidence) to 2006 (79%) to 2012 (85%). Aarli contends that this increase "coincides with the introduction and circulation of the Media Handbook for judges," an effort of the Norwegian Association of Judges to have judges more directly interact with the media and the public.



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Quarterly Summaries of Procedural-Fairness Research
ProceduralFairness.org



The ProceduralFairness.org website has begun posting quarterly summaries of new research. The website was created in 2012 to provide background information about how to improve procedural fairness in court and policing, including links to important articles and other information.

The quarterly research summaries are prepared by Justine Greve, M.A., of the Kansas Court of Appeals, and Shelley Spacek Miller, J.D., of the National Center for State Courts. They search the Internet and other sources to locate the most notable procedural-fairness scholarship released over the past quarter related to procedural-fairness issues in courts and in law enforcement. The report also covers recent news and events of interest.

The website also has a blog with regular commentaries on procedural-fairness issues.