



The Resource Page



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Procedural Fairness for Judges and Courts

<http://proceduralfairness.org>

There's now a place on the web to find all the basics about procedural fairness, along with the latest research, how these concepts have been implemented, and additional resources that will be of use to judges. On the site, you can find:

- Quick access to the AJA's White Paper on Procedural Fairness, as well as the special issue of *Court Review* on the topic.
- Tips for judges on how to incorporate procedural-fairness concepts into a judge's daily work. (Tip #1: "Join the American Judges Association, which has for the past several years been leading judges toward better procedural-fairness practices.")
- Separate tips for court administrators, whose support is essential.
- Recent lectures—including video and PowerPoint slides—on procedural-fairness concepts from Yale law and psychology professor Tom Tyler, the leading academic researcher in this field for more than two decades.

The website is designed to provide easy access to theoretical and practical materials on procedural fairness.

Click on the tab "Procedural Fairness Theory" to see how research in the area has developed into a coherent theory that shows how paying attention to procedural-fairness concepts improves public acceptance of courts in general and compliance with court orders in particular. A three-part lecture from Professor Tyler shows how perceptions of institutional legitimacy, which are rooted in procedural-justice principles, are central to individual decisions to adhere to a society's rules.

Click on the tab "Relevant Research" to see specific research in areas like specialized courts, juvenile justice, and media-

tion. Or click on the tab "Resources" to see specific tips for judges and court administrators.

The procedural-fairness website has been put together by Professor Tyler, National Center for State Courts researcher David Rottman, current AJA president Kevin Burke, and *Court Review* coeditor Steve Leben.

Procedural-Fairness Blog

<http://proceduralfairnessblog.org>

There's a procedural-fairness blog that complements the website. The blog has an active discussion on procedural-fairness issues, as well as its own links to recent papers in the field (including some published only on the blog or the procedural-fairness website).

The primary bloggers are the founders of the procedural-fairness website: Yale law and psychology professor Tom Tyler, National Center for State Courts researcher David Rottman, current AJA president Kevin Burke, and *Court Review* coeditor Steve Leben. But guest bloggers are also welcome—if you'd like to comment on something related to procedural fairness, click on the heading for "Guest Blog Posts" and get in touch.

Anything that relates to procedural fairness—as practiced or perceived—is fair game on this blog. Recent blog entries have included:

- An appraisal in April of the fairness of the United States Supreme Court's oral argument in the healthcare cases, followed by a reaction to its opinion—from a procedural-fairness perspective—when it was released in late June.
- "Good Judging Often Starts with Good Listening"—some thoughts about how judges might improve their listening skills and why that could be important.
- "Where to Start?"—advice for the judge or court administrator starting down the road toward exploring procedural fairness in court.
- "The Value of Video"—discussing how individual judges might use video of their work on the bench to improve performance, much as the amateur (or professional) golfer might improve a

golf swing through watching it on video.

- "Procedural Fairness on Appeal"—a guest blog from Minnesota appellate judge Francis J. Connolly providing practical ways appellate courts might improve perceptions of procedural fairness on appeal.

All of the blog entries are open for comment.

The AJA Blog

<http://blog.amjudges.org>

Court Review is published quarterly, but events of interest to judges happen all the time. Current AJA President Kevin Burke has started a blog that fills the gap.

Almost anything that's important to judges is likely to be touched on in the blog, often with links to new reports, articles of interest, or other websites with more information.

Recent blog entries have included:

- Updates on the court-funding crisis, with links to commentaries about problems in funding courts in Florida, New York, and Canada (including a speech by Chief Justice Robert Bauman of the Supreme Court of British Columbia).
- A summary of a new report from Justice at Stake, *The New Politics of Judicial Elections 2009-2010*, which found that the rise in noncandidate TV advertising made the 2010 election cycle the costliest nonpresidential election ever for TV spending in judicial elections. The blog provided a link for downloading the report, as well as a separate link to a Joyce Foundation report on money and politics.
- A report of a recent speech by Florida Bar President Scott G. Hawkins, who suggested that justices of the Florida Supreme Court may be targeted by opposition groups in 2012.
- A three-step action plan for reducing the chance that a rampant rumor mill will take over your courthouse.
- Guest commentaries, including ones on judicial wellness and court leadership.