He has tried in his courtroom to overcome about a number of innovative approaches thought leader on the federal bench, talks about implicit bias as it relates to the court system. For example:

- Professor Jeffrey J. Rachlinski and U.S. District Magistrate Judge Andrew Wistrich take on a more focused look at implicit bias. They explain their own personal journeys and evidence showing how implicit bias affects judges; they also discuss practical steps judges can take to reduce the risk that implicit bias may taint judicial decisions.

- Professor Jeffrey J. Rachlinski and U.S. District Judge Mark W. Bennett, a thought leader on the federal bench, talks about a number of innovative approaches he has tried in his courtroom to overcome implicit bias. He also discusses how he has seen evidence of bias in his more than two decades on the federal bench.

Cook County (Illinois) Circuit Judge Sophia H. Hall, a state-court judge with more than three decades on the bench, provides suggestions for judicial leadership aimed at combating implicit bias. She gives specific suggestions for managing meetings with diverse participants to discuss these hot-button topics.

Kansas Court of Appeals Chief Judge Karen Arnold-Burger, consultant Jean Mavrelis and attorney Phyllis B. Pickett discuss opportunities for community outreach that would open dialog between judges and community members about perceptions of justice. They also suggest training approaches that would make implicit-bias training for judges and court staff more effective.

Judge Bernice Donald of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and Professor Sarah Redfield, the book’s editor, frame the book’s other chapters with an early chapter defining and providing an overview of basic concepts, including implicit bias, “ingroup” and “outgroup” responses, and “micromessaging.” They also explain their own personal journeys of discovery about implicit bias.

The book also includes an overview of procedural fairness (also known as procedural justice) written by former American Judges Association presidents Kevin Burke and Steve Leben. Burke and Leben suggest that adherence to procedural-fairness principles may help to lessen the effects of implicit bias in the courtroom.

Most of the book’s chapters also provide places a reader may go to learn more about the topic.

PAMELA CASEY, JENNIFER ELEK & ROGER WARREN, AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH TO PROMOTING & ENFORCING COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF PROBATION & SUPERVISION. National Center for State Courts, Center for Sentencing Initiatives, 2017. 5 pp. https://goo.gl/41z3Mh

The National Center for State Courts’ Center for Sentencing Initiatives periodically issues short reports—aimed at the judicial audience—on key questions involved in criminal sentencing. These reports are highly readable and contain conclusions that are backed up by extensive research that’s cited in footnotes (usually with links where the underlying reports can be found on the Internet).

The latest report covers how to best set up probation terms and supervision to gain offender success on probation. The brief report gives research-based answers to eight key questions:

- What are the overall goals of effective probation supervision?
- What works to promote compliance with the terms and conditions of probation?
- What works in sanctioning violations?
- What are administrative sanctions?
- Is the availability of risk-and-needs-assessment (RNA) information helpful in responding to violation?
- How do probation agencies ensure that the system of rewards and sanctions is administered with consistency, transparency, and fairness?
- What are the specific factors that should be considered in determining an appropriate response to a violation in an individual case?
- When is revocation an appropriate response to a violation?

If these questions seem relevant to your daily work—and you’d like to read some research-based answers—head over to the Internet link listed above to take a look at the report. The Center for Sentencing Initiatives is funded in part by The Pew Charitable Trusts.