EDITOR’S NOTE

In addition to our recurring columns, this issue focuses on odors and ethics. We start with AJA president Robert Torres, Jr.’s final column as president providing an informative overview of recent AJA accomplishments. Thank you, Judge Torres, for your past and future leadership and service to AJA. Next we hear from our regular Canadian columnist, Judge Wayne Gorman. An interesting irony occurred in planning this issue. When we heard from Judge Gorman that his column would address Canadian developments regarding searches using sniffer dogs, we learned that one of our editors, Prof. Eve Brank, was working on an article addressing developments in the United States regarding sniffer dogs. Prof. Brank kindly accelerated her article so that we could present them as complementary pieces in this issue. Regardless of your legal system, you will find a review of the similarities and differences in the approaches to these points of analysis presented by these two articles.

Next, we hear from Robert Tembeckjian, the administrator and counsel of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct. Mr. Tembeckjian has decades of experience in judicial ethics and judicial disciplinary commissions. He is one of the leading speakers on issues of judicial ethics. We asked Mr. Tembeckjian to share with you his observations and insights drawn from his decades of work with our peer judges and guarding the integrity of the judiciary. We think you will find the results fascinating.

Speaking of judicial ethics, we asked our regular ethics columnist, Cynthia Gray, director of the Center for Judicial Ethics, to do something a little different for this issue. Many of our readers may not know that Ms. Gray provides a regular service by reporting on judicial ethics decisions across the United States. We and many judges have found a regular review of her reports invaluable components of our learning how to be a judge and how to navigate the critical ethical restrictions that preserve the credibility and integrity of the judiciary. We asked Ms. Gray to depart from her usual topical column to give you a taste of this valuable resource she regularly provides outside the pages of Court Review. Ms. Gray’s closing line says it beautifully, “Reading about others’ missteps may help judges navigate ethically when almost everything they do has the potential for a cringe-worthy headline.” Readers dedicated to quality professional judging will want to incorporate a review of these reports as part of their routine.—David Prince

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

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The cover piece was created by Frank Perez, a local Guam artist, and features the Guam Judicial Center. The Judiciary is comprised of both the Superior Court of Guam and the Supreme Court of Guam. The Guam Judicial Center was constructed in 1991 to accommodate the expansion of court operations, and the establishment of specialty courts, as well as to meet the needs of Guam’s growing population.

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