

How a Commitment to Fairness Might Just Save the Courts

The Australian Centre for Justice Innovation (ACJI) at Monash University is proud to present this public lecture by Judge Kevin Burke, Minnesota District Court Judge, past Board member of the National Center for State Courts, and past President of the American Judges Association, who will share his thoughts regarding commitment to fairness in court.

For the first time, ACJI welcomes Judge Kevin Burke, one of the most recognised leaders within the American judiciary.

Following on from insights shared in his thought-provoking article 'A Vision for Enhancing Public Confidence in the Judiciary: Commit to Fairness in Court' (2012) 95(6) *Judicature* 251–254, Judge Burke will present his reflections on why it is 'time for courts to commit to procedural fairness'. Find out why '[c]ourts must be willing to innovate if they are to effectively address the popular dissatisfaction with the administration of justice.'

Speaker: Judge Kevin Burke

Judge Kevin Burke is a District Judge in Hennepin County, Minnesota. He is one of the most recognised leaders within the American judiciary. Judge Burke was elected for four terms as Chief Judge and three terms as Assistant Chief Judge. During this time he instituted social science studies – and reforms improving – procedural fairness. From 1991–1996 he served as the Chair of the Conference of Chief Judges. He chaired the State Board of Public Defense, and was a leader in the effort to improve and expand the state's public defender system.

Judge Burke has been named one of the 100 most influential lawyers in the history of Minnesota by *Law & Politics* magazine. In 1996 he was named a Toll Fellow. The Toll Fellowship identifies emerging state leaders from all three branches of government. In 1997 he received the Director's Community Leadership Award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In 2002 the National Center for State Courts awarded him the Distinguished Service Award. In 2003 he was selected as the William H. Rehnquist Award recipient by the National Center for State Courts. The Rehnquist Award is presented annually to a state judge who exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness and professional ethics. He was awarded Public Official of the Year by *Governing Magazine* in 2004. In 2005 the Minnesota Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates named him Trial Judge of the Year. The American Bar Association named him Judicial Educator of the Year in 2010.

Judge Burke teaches at the University of Minnesota and University of St Thomas law schools. For many years he served on the faculty of the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute's Reflective Leadership Program. He has been a speaker in 38 states as well as Abu Dhabi, Canada, Egypt, Mexico, China, India and Ireland regarding improvement in judicial administration and court leadership.

Judge Burke has authored numerous articles, and is the co-author of two American Judges Association White Papers, 'Procedural Fairness: A Key Ingredient in Public Satisfaction' and 'Minding the Court: Enhancing the Decision-Making Process'. He presently serves on the Board of the Institute for the Reform of the American Legal System. He is a past Board member of the National Center for State Courts and the American Judicature Society.



Date: Thursday 15 May 2014

Time: 5.30pm for a 6pm start

Venue: Monash University Law Chambers, 555 Lonsdale Street Melbourne

RSVP: 8 May 2014
email acji@monash.edu
(seating is limited)