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## Court Review: Volume 39, Issue 4 - Editor's Note

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# Court Review

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION

Volume 39, Issue 4

Winter 2003

## EDITOR'S NOTE

**B**efore describing each of the articles in this issue, let me take a moment to comment on the sorts of problems that arise in editing a journal intended for both a United States and Canadian audience. The American Judges Association was formed in the United States and has most of its members there. It also has a substantial—and growing—membership in Canada. As our Canadian readers are well aware, there are some differences in the way the English language is used in Canada and in the United States. (For an entertaining and enlightening discussion of some of the differences, prepared by the Cornerstone Word Company of Ottawa, take a look at <http://www.cornerstoneword.com/misc/cdneng/cdneng.htm>.)

I raise this topic because the lead essay in this issue is by a Canadian judge, Ian B. Cowan, who wrote about Canadian events with appropriately Canadian spellings. Our journal, like most others, has made certain style choices, and we use U.S. English spellings. Thus, labour became labor and offences became offenses, all without either the labor or the intent of Judge Cowan. Meanwhile, on the Resource Page at the end of this issue, the word licence is spelled in the Canadian way—because it is part of the actual title of a Canadian publication.

I hope that our Canadian readers will not mind our choices. All publications try to achieve a single, consistent editing style. We spend a great deal of effort in the editing of each issue. Substantively, though, we also spend time trying to get articles and materials that will be of interest to all of our readers, both in Canada and in the United States.

Judge Cowan's essay should be of interest to many. He happened to be in the crosshairs of the SARS epidemic in Toronto, which forced careful consideration of both legal and practical concerns in handling quarantine orders against potentially infected citizens.

Our lead article, by Paula Hannaford-Agor, places efforts to help pro se litigants into their broader context. She describes the changes under way in some places to allow “unbundled” legal services, in which an attorney helps with some, but not all, aspects of a client's legal problem. She also discusses how these sorts of changes may impact the role of courts in helping self-represented litigants gain appropriate access to their judicial system.

Two other articles round out the issue. Andrew Fulkerson, a former judge, reviews the usefulness of ignition interlock devices as a way of preventing repeat impaired-driving offenses. We also include last year's winning entry from our law student essay competition. In it, Rosalind Alexis Sargent presents her views on racial inequities in the federal sentencing guidelines. —SL



*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, Canada, and Mexico. 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 38 of this issue. *Court Review* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject material submitted for publication.

*Court Review* is in full text on LEXIS and is indexed in the Current Law Index, the Legal Resource Index, and LegalTrac.

Letters to the Editor, intended for publication, are welcome. Please send such letters to *Court Review*'s editor: Judge Steve Leben, 100 North Kansas Avenue, Olathe, Kansas 66061, e-mail address: [sleben@ix.netcom.com](mailto:sleben@ix.netcom.com). Comments and suggestions for the publication, not intended for publication, also are welcome.

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