

We want to hear from you!

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Judicature explores all aspects of the administration of justice, courts, and judging. We publish articles based on empirical research as well as articles based on fact and opinion from members of the bench, the bar, and the academy. Submission guidelines may be found on our website: judicature.duke.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Email your letter, including your full name and title, with *Attr: Editor* in the subject line, to judicature@law.duke.edu.

JUDICIAL HONORS

We print select judicial honors, space permitting, and lists of active judges celebrating milestone anniversaries of the date of their commission. Send your submissions to judicature@law.duke.edu; high-resolution (300 dpi) photos are welcome.

THE STORIED THIRD BRANCH

The Storied Third Branch invites judges to write a tribute to another judge who has, through example or mentorship, served as an inspiration to colleagues on and off the bench. See details at judicature.duke.edu.

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to their local courthouse for jury duty, 70 percent or more responded positively to:

- everyone (employees and public) wearing masks (70 percent);
- social distancing being enforced (70 percent);
- temperature checks (74 percent); and
- coronavirus testing (76 percent).

TEXAS

In an effort to address differing views by state, the same survey was administered to a statistically significant sampling of Texas residents. The results were similar:

- 69 percent expressed confidence in their courts (vs. 70 percent nationally);
- 68 percent of those polled favored masks being required for courts (vs. 67 percent).

KEY MESSAGES FOR COURTS

Overall, there were three main takeaways from the survey. First, people are looking for

alternatives to reporting to the courthouse. This is not new; jurors have expressed this desire for several years, driven in large part by technological capabilities. Second, the composition of the jury pool is likely to be an even greater challenge during the pandemic, particularly when it comes to elderly jurors. And third, while people are willing to serve on juries in-person and remotely, they are not confident that a remote trial can be as fair as an in-person one.

– **WILLIAM RAFTERY** blogs about state courts and legislation at gaveltogavel.us.

NOTE: Complete findings and a webinar conducted by the survey group, GBAO Strategies, which included questions from court stakeholders on the findings, are available at www.ncsc.org/pandemicsurvey. The poll of 1,000 registered voters was conducted using telephone interviews and online surveys June 8–11, 2020. Findings are considered accurate within +/- 3 percent, 19 times out of 20. The survey was developed with input from an advisory body of judges, court professionals, and NCSC staff.

Judicature announces new editorial board for 2020-21 term

Judge **DON WILLETT** of the U.S.

Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has been named chair of *Judicature's* editorial board for the 2020–21 editorial term.

A 2016 graduate of Duke Law's Master of Judicial Studies program, Willett served as editor in chief of *Judicature's* Spring 2017 edition.

Willett succeeds **DAVID ICHEL**, who served as the board's inaugural chair. In addition to establishing *Judicature's* editorial board, Ichel has been a strong advocate for the journal. Last year he helped to engage nearly 45 law firms in providing the funds needed to expand *Judicature's* distribution among state court judges. Ichel will continue to serve as a member of the editorial board for the coming term.

NATHAN HECHT, chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court, and **PATRICIA TIMMONS-GOODSON**, former chief justice of the North Carolina



Supreme Court, are stepping down from the board after completing their one-year terms. **ROBERT BRUTINEL**, chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, and Judge **BERNICE DONALD** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit (both 2018 graduates of Duke's Master of Judicial Studies program) will join the board for the 2020–21 term.

All other members of the 2019–20 editorial board (listed on page 3) have generously agreed to serve a second term.

David F. Levi, director of the Bolch Judicial Institute and *Judicature's* publisher, thanked incoming and outgoing board members for their service. "We are fortunate to be able to call on the expertise and guidance of such distinguished judges, scholars, and lawyers as we work to ensure that *Judicature* continues to be a vital forum for exploring the many challenges facing our judiciary and legal system."