

Judge Kevin Burke

Kevin Burke, a Minneapolis trial judge since 1984, is one of the most recognized leaders within the American judiciary. He served four terms as chief judge of the Hennepin County (Minn.) District Court, a 62-judge court, where he instituted social-science studies examining—and reforms improving—procedural fairness. Burke coauthored the American Judges Association's white paper on procedural fairness in 2007. Since then, he and his white paper coauthor, Kansas judge Steve Leben, have made presentations on procedural fairness to more than 3,000 state and federal judges.

Burke received the William H. Rehnquist Award from the National Center for State Courts in 2003, an award presented annually to the state judge who most exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness, and professional ethics. He has received many other awards, including Trial Judge of the Year by the Minnesota chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2005; Public Official of the Year by *Governing* magazine in 2004; the Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts in 2002; and the Director's Community Leadership Award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1997. The magazine *Politics in Minnesota* named him one of the most influential lawyers in the history of the State of Minnesota.

Judge Burke presently serves as President of the American Judges Association. He presently serves on the Board of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS). In the past he has served on the board of directors for the National Center for State Courts and the American Judicature Society. He has spoken in 38 states, Abu Dhabi, Egypt, Canada, Ireland, India, and Mexico about issues of judicial leadership, court administration and procedural fairness. Judge Burke teaches at two law schools: he teaches trial practice at the University of Minnesota Law School and criminal procedure at the University of St. Thomas Law School.