

2025 FORUM FOR STATE APPELLATE COURT JUDGES

33RD
ANNUAL
FORUM

Judicial Interpretation and Precedent: The Vital Role of State Courts

NATIONAL CIVIL JUSTICE INSTITUTE

The Forum is a one-day complimentary judicial education conference. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

HOLD THE DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Program and travel are complimentary for sitting state appellate judges. Trial/senior judges are accommodated as space and budget permit. Space is limited. Request your spot at **[NCJI.org](https://www.ncji.org)**



SAVE YOUR SPOT

JUDICIAL INTERPRETATION AND PRECEDENT: THE VITAL ROLE OF STATE COURTS

Saturday, July 19, 2025, San Francisco

State courts play a crucial role in the American legal system, particularly in their interpretation of law and precedent. While federal courts are often in the spotlight, most legal disputes are resolved in state court, shaping not just local but often national legal landscapes. In fact, while federal precedent may, at times, influence state jurisprudence, it is often the state courts' interpretation of their laws and constitutions that lead to precedents which influence federal courts. This reciprocal relationship enhances the depth of judicial interpretation and encourages a broader dialogue on the application of law across jurisdictions, particularly in areas such as constitutional law, civil rights, consumer and privacy law, and much more.

At the 2025 Forum, state court judges will explore the ways their work in state courts can have nationwide implications. They will also gain insight into when consideration of federal precedent may be informative and when state courts should chart their own paths. Judges, scholars, and practicing lawyers will bring different perspectives, allowing judges from across the country to discuss these issues in depth.



777 6th Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20001