

# DEFENDING THE RULE OF LAW IN AMERICA: COUNTERING ATTACKS ON JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS

★ A COMPLIMENTARY CLE PROGRAM ★

PRESENTED BY THE ABA TORT TRIAL & INSURANCE PRACTICE SECTION (TIPS),  
THE ABA STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE,  
AND THE JUSTICE AT STAKE CAMPAIGN



Thursday, October 4, 2007  
3:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
The Breakers Hotel & Resort  
Palm Beach, Florida



## PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

**Peter Bennett**, *Chair, Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section*  
**Berry Crowley**, *Chair, TIPS Task Force on Judicial Independence*

In recent years, the independence of the judiciary has been subject to increasing attacks on a number of fronts. These attacks have brought with them a need for the organized bar to step up and defend our judicial independence. These attacks are a significant threat, not only to the independence of the judiciary and its ability to be fair and impartial, but to the citizen's perception of the independence of our judiciary, a problem of equal significance. The number and confluence of these attacks is in combination a national crisis, and judges are constrained by the nature of their office from speaking out and defending themselves in any meaningful way.

Join us for this two-part symposium, as we consider, discuss and debate some of the most prevalent issues threatening our judicial independence.

- ★ **Part I** - The panel will explore the issues as they exist today with an attempt to engage the audience in a deeper understanding of these issues. The Moderator will be **Hon. Doreen Dodson**, *Chair, ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence*. The panelists for this segment include exemplary leaders of the profession: **Hon. Dennis Archer**, *Past President, ABA and former Associate Justice, Michigan Supreme Court*; **Vanita Banks**, *President, National Bar Association*; **Mike Eidson**, *President, American Association for Justice*; **Hon. Fred Lewis**, *Chief Justice, Florida Supreme Court*; and **John White**, *President-Elect, Florida Bar Association*.
- ★ **Part II** - This part will focus on best practices in civic education by training those lawyers present on how to rebut these ongoing attacks and be the continuing voices that defend the judiciary and its independence. Part II will be moderated by: **Margie Elsberg**, of *Elsberg Associates*, a Washington, D.C. communications consultant specifically commissioned by the ABA's Judicial Division and Standing Committee on Judicial Independence to create a program entitled "In Support of Fair and Impartial Courts: Countering the Critics."
- ★ **Pursuit of Justice Award Reception** - Join us immediately following the program, from 6 p.m.-7 p.m., as we recognize the **Hon. Fred Lewis**, Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, with the Pursuit of Justice Award.

For more information about this program and to register, visit:  
[www.abanet.org/tips](http://www.abanet.org/tips)