

Balancing the Scales: Judicial Security in an Evolving Landscape



As threats to judges and court personnel continue to rise, judicial security has become a pressing concern for courts across the country. This session will provide an overview of current security challenges as well as strategies and resources available to enhance personal and institutional safety. The panel will discuss best practices for safeguarding judges while preserving transparency and public trust.

Learning Objectives:

1. Explore best practices for judicial security - how has the environment changed for judicial security in the past ten years with bloggers and the internet?
2. Consider the role of the judge in preparing for and fashioning a response to security threats.
3. Reflections on scenario-based Q & A with judges who share they own experiences with threats.

Speakers:

Hon. Cathleen Campbell



Edward Davis

Edward F. Davis is the Founder and CEO of The Edward Davis Company, a business strategy and security services firm. He leads a team of security and technology experts, including former law enforcement, military, researchers, and attorneys, offering services in crisis response, risk management, facility security, government consulting, cyber/IoT mitigation, and product strategy for government and Fortune 500 companies.

Davis has 35 years of law enforcement experience, including serving as Boston Police Commissioner from 2006 to 2013, where he led the response to the Boston Marathon bombing. He also served as Superintendent of the Lowell Police Department and worked internationally on police issues in several countries.

Davis has testified before Congressional and Senate hearings on terrorism and police practices. He holds a master's degree from Anna Maria College and Honorary Doctorates from Northeastern, Suffolk, and the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. He was a Fellow at Harvard University's Institute of Politics.

Hon. Janet McGuigan



Hon. Gloria Tan

Gloria Tan was appointed as an Associate Justice to the Massachusetts Appeals Court in 2024. She served as a judge on the Massachusetts Juvenile Court from 2013-2024. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Justice Tan served as the Deputy Director at Harvard Law School's Criminal Justice Institute, where she taught and supervised law students representing indigent adults and youth in criminal and delinquency proceedings. She began her legal career as a public defender representing juvenile and adult clients in the Youth Advocacy Project and the Boston Trial Unit of the Committee for Public Counsel Services. She was a recipient of the Massachusetts Bar Association Access Justice Award in 2013. Justice Tan currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Flaschner Judicial Institute. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Rice University magna cum laude and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa and earned her Juris Doctorate from Yale Law School.