

Judging in the Spotlight: Managing High Profile Cases



High profile cases in trial courts can garner nationwide attention and put the judges presiding over those cases on the proverbial hotseat. Such cases can land in your Courtroom any day of the week. Come listen to two judges who handled hot, high-pressure, high-profile cases and did so with grace and aplomb. Massachusetts Judge E. Susan Garsh handled the first murder trial of the New England Patriots' superstar tight end, Aaron Hernandez. She faced motions to recuse herself, and the close scrutiny of football and Patriots' fans nationwide. Utah Senior Judge Kent Holmberg presided over the civil tort case against Gwyneth Paltrow stemming from a ski incident. The trial centered around a 2016 collision at Deer Valley Resort in Park City, Utah, where Terry Sanderson sued Paltrow for \$3.1 million, claiming she injured him. Paltrow countersued for \$1, and the jury ruled in her favor, finding Sanderson 100% at fault. Judge Holmberg faced constant daily national media attention and intense focus.

Learning Objectives:

After this presentation you will learn how to handle courtroom security; how to ensure courtroom decorum; how to handle press inquiries and misrepresentations; how to handle issues regarding juror selection and post-verdict juror issues, and how to make sure you do not become part of the story.

Speakers:

Hon. Susan Garsh (Ret.)

Hon. Kent Holmberg