



The Third Hon. Mark R. Kravitz Symposium

“Should We Praise Litigation?”

UCONN School of Law
Hartford, CT
December 1, 2017

In 2012, the Connecticut Bar Foundation James W. Cooper Fellows held the inaugural Hon. Mark R. Kravitz Symposium on the Administration of Justice in honor of the late Judge Kravitz. The topic of that symposium was “The Vanishing Trial,” which was the subject of both a published article by Judge Kravitz and his keynote speech at the Connecticut Bar Foundation Annual Reception in 2005. In 2015, the second Hon. Mark R. Kravitz Symposium on the Administration of Justice, “Dollars, Sense and the High Cost of Litigation: Causes, Consequences and Responses” was held to explore one of the legal profession’s most pressing issues: the high cost associated with the delivery of legal services.

This year’s symposium will explore whether litigation is a good or a bad thing from the perspective of citizens, businesses, consumers, and shareholders. With Judge Kravitz in mind, we will explore whether the litigation system (and trials in particular) benefits society, whether there are more cost effective and efficient ways to resolve disputes, and whether the trend to curb the "litigation explosion" has gone too far or if we have more to do.

The symposium will feature a discussion of a book written by Professor Alexandra Lahav, “In Praise of Litigation.” Judge Janet Bond Arterton will moderate the program with a panel that includes UCONN School of Law Professors Lahav and Peter Siegelman and Columbia Law School Professor Olatunde Johnson.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

10:00 – 10:10 a.m. Introductions and Welcome

Timothy S. Fisher, Dean, UCONN School of Law

James T. (Tim) Shearin, President, Connecticut Bar Foundation; Pullman & Comley LLC

10:10 – 12:00 p.m. Overview, Panel Discussion, and Interactive Q & A

Overview: **Alexandra D. Lahav**,
Professor, UCONN School of Law

Panel Discussion:

Moderator: **Hon. Janet Bond Arterton**
United States District Court,
District of Connecticut

Panelists: **Olatunde Johnson**,
Professor and Vice Dean,
Columbia Law School

Alexandra D. Lahav,
Professor, UCONN School of Law

Peter Siegelman,
Professor, UCONN School of Law

12:00 p.m. Closing Remarks