

## Fifth Annual Forum on Judicial Independence: Courts As Leaders – Learning From Ferguson

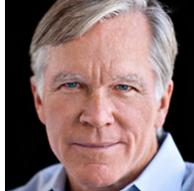
Courts are supposed to be refuges of justice for all, but the DOJ Investigation of the Ferguson Police Department related to Ferguson's municipal court practices was a stark reminder that the judicial system itself sometimes contributes to injustice. But Ferguson is not unique. Instead, it offers lessons that judges and lawyers around the country must heed. This program will examine the importance of fair courts that do not alienate minority and poor communities through, for example, disproportionate imposition of fines and collection efforts, inequitable bond and sentencing practices, or financial barriers resulting in unequal access to the civil justice system.

Judge Laura Denvir Stith will discuss reforms undertaken by the Supreme Court of Missouri and will join California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and New York Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman to address what courts around the country can do to take leadership roles to ensure due process and build strong relationships with all participants in the judicial process. Moderator Bill Keller will bring his unique perspective as an esteemed journalist whose career is now focused on increasing transparency to improve the criminal justice system.

**Friday, July 31, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago Ballroom IX**

**This is a complimentary CLE program. Registration for the ABA Annual Meeting is Required.**



Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former editor of *The New York Times* Bill Keller will moderate this timely program. Mr. Keller now serves as editor-in-chief of The Marshall Project, which uses open-minded, fact-based journalism to raise public awareness about the systemic problems surrounding criminal justice and the potential for reform.

### CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:



**Chief Justice**  
**Tani Cantil-Sakauye**  
Supreme Court of  
California



**Chief Judge**  
**Jonathan Lippman**  
State of New York



**Judge**  
**Laura Denvir Stith**  
Supreme Court of  
Missouri

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