CALL FOR PAPERS:
FOR THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY: CURES OR KUDOS?

We invite submissions for our fifth micro-symposium, to be published in the Green Bag and the Journal of Law.


Invited topics: Any original work that criticizes Posner’s writings in the Green Bag about the federal courts or his similar writings elsewhere. Let us be clear: This is not an “and another thing” opportunity to pile on the federal judiciary. It is an opportunity to answer Posner’s own call for criticism of his own critiques of the courts. In the second part of What Is Obviously Wrong, Posner says,

What I would most like to see would be criticism of the criticisms that I have made of the federal judiciary, and of the American legal culture more broadly, in this two-part article and at much greater length in Divergent Paths (and earlier books and articles). The Bluebook must have its defenders – let them defend their precious tome from me. And so must the awful legal jargon found in so many judicial opinions, and their verbosity; the superfluous headings and subheadings; the silly flourishes; the paean to the adversary system; the pattern jury instructions; the standards of review; the dread of the italicized period; the spittoons behind the Supreme Court’s bench. The list goes on and on. . . . But no; it seems I am to remain a voice crying in the wilderness.

Pretty depressing.

Let’s cheer him up!

Length limit: 2,000 words, including title, text, footnotes, author note, and everything else.

Deadline: Finished works must be received at editors@greenbag.org by November 1, 2016. No extensions will be granted and no post-deadline tinkering will be permitted.

Selection criteria: We will select works for publication based on how original, interesting, well-researched, well-written, potentially useful, and good-spirited they are.