

**AMERICA 250**  
**A MORE PERFECT APPEAL**  
**Charting the Next 250 Years of Appellate Practice**  
*(Approved for 2 substantive credits by the Pennsylvania CLE Board.)*

**Thursday, November 12, 2026**

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Supreme Court Courtroom, 8th Floor, City County Building, Pittsburgh, PA

**Followed immediately by a cocktail reception with the judges**

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**Featuring the following distinguished jurists**

**Justice Christine L. Donohue**, Pennsylvania Supreme Court

**Honorable Mary Jane Bowes**, Pennsylvania Superior Court

**Honorable Judith Ference Olson**, Pennsylvania Superior Court

**Honorable Patricia A. McCullough**, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court

**Program Moderators**

**Frederick W. Bode, Esquire**, Dickie McCamey & Chilcote

**Deborah Little, Esquire**, (retired) Dentons Cohen & Grigsby

**Mark E. Milsop, Esquire**, Berger and Green

**Erin K. Rudert, Esquire**, Ainsman Levine

**Topics to be covered will include:**

- ❖ **Material Changes in the Law:** How appellate court changes in the law may affect pending cases
- ❖ **AI on Appeal:** Current developments, practical uses, and emerging boundaries for artificial intelligence in appellate practice
- ❖ **Expediting Appeals:** Practical mechanisms for accelerating appellate review
- ❖ **Venue Change and Forum Non Conveniens:** Strategic and procedural considerations for seeking or opposing a change of forum
- ❖ **Remands from Appellate Courts:** Scope of remand, mandate compliance, and managing cases returned to lower courts
- ❖ **Permission to Appeal:** The certification process and its strategic significance
- ❖ **Re-Arguments:** When they occur, why courts order them, and what they may signal to counsel
- ❖ **Judicial Independence:** The bench-bar partnership in safeguarding an independent judiciary

**REGISTRATION FORM**

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**Registration Fees**

\$120.00 Academy Members

\$135.00 Non-Academy Members

\$70.00 in practice 5 years or less

\$60.00 Government Lawyers & Federal Clerks

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**To pay by credit card**, please provide email address, below name, for e-invoice to be sent.

*Note: 3.25% processing fees will be incurred if paying by credit card.*

**PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU WILL ATTEND ONE OR BOTH EVENTS**

*I will attend the CLE only*

☐

*I will attend CLE Program and Reception*

☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Academy of Trial Lawyers ~ P. O. Box 14744 ~ Pittsburgh, PA 15234-0744

**Question(s) for panel members:** \_\_\_\_\_

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